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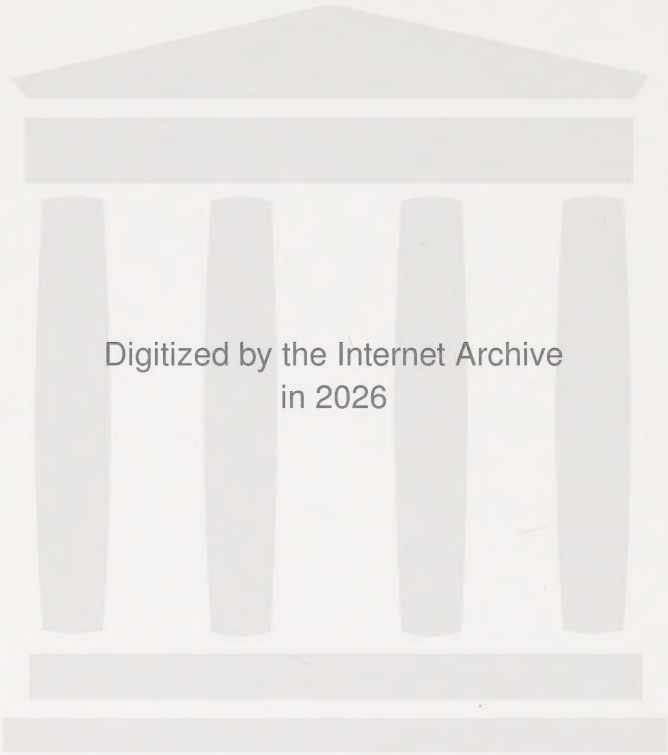
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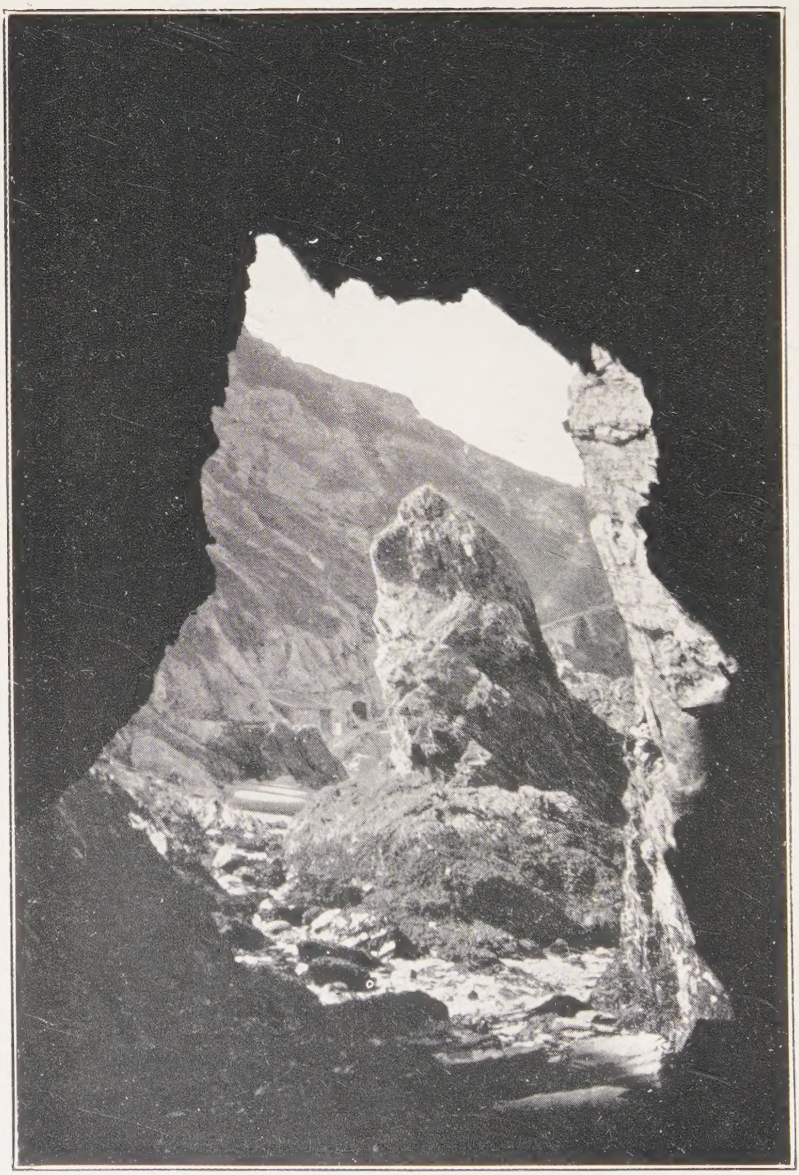
LUNDY

ITS HISTORY AND NATURAL HISTORY



View from Old Man's Cave

LUNDY

Its History and Natural History

COMPILED BY

LEWIS R. W. LOYD

WITHDRAWN FROM PLS

'A lusty black-browed girl, with forehead broad and high,
That often had bewitched the sea-gods with her eye.'
Drayton's 'Polyolbion.'

WITH 29 ILLUSTRATIONS
AND A MAP

LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO.
39 PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON, E.C. 4
NEW YORK, TORONTO
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To My Friend

SIR H. M. MALLABY-DEELEY, BART.

TO WHOSE INTEREST AND ENCOURAGEMENT
THE PUBLICATION OF THIS
VOLUME IS DUE

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

During many months' stay on Lundy the compiler of this little work has been struck with the constantly repeated demand of visitors for some book from which they might learn a little about the place they are visiting, and it is largely in the hope of meeting that demand that this volume has been produced.

He lays no claim to be a scientific student of history. His work has been a mere matter of extracting certain facts from certain volumes and arranging them in the sequence which appears to him likely to prove most acceptable and of the greatest use. Care has been taken to verify, as far as possible, all dates and to place the various owners and governors of the Island in their correct chronological order,—none too easy a matter in view of the confused and sometimes contradictory reports of ancient chroniclers. As no attempt, however, has been made for well over half a century to compile any History of Lundy, and as all those written are long out of print, not easy of access, and, for the most part, fragmentary, it is hoped that this work may prove to be not altogether wasted.

J. R. Chanter's Monograph 'Lundy Island,' reprinted from the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association* in 1877, has proved invaluable and been freely quoted. To this little book, indeed, the compiler is indebted for much, if not most, of the matter contained in the following pages.

Lewis R. W. Loyd.

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A HISTORY OF LUNDY

Errata

P. 233, line 18, *omit* Scrofularia Scorodonia.
P. 233, line 20, *for* Polybody *read* Polypody.

The compiler of a history of Lundy is faced with difficulties greater, perhaps, than ordinary. The material at his disposal is so meagre, the facts obtainable so few and yet so confused, that inaccuracies must inevitably creep in, be he never so careful. Church Records, from which much, if disconnected, information might confidently be expected, are not forthcoming. Tradition tells us, though nowhere in printed or written page, that they were sent to London from Cleeve Abbey in Somersetshire, to be copied or for some other purpose, and perished in the Great Fire of 1666. Thomas Westcote, Holinshed, Risdon—none of these have a great deal to tell us. By the old English poets, with the exception of Drayton, who devotes the greater part of two cantos of his 'Polyolbion' to the island, Lundy is

scarcely mentioned. The records of a few Extents or Inventories of Produce taken from time to time from the middle of the thirteenth century onwards are still accessible. The value of these, however, as a matter of exactness, as distinct from a matter of mere interest, may be gauged from the recurrent reference to the island as being 'two miles in length every way'—an error which persists in maps and charts of those days. However incompetent may have been the surveyors of the thirteenth century, one of them must surely have realised the inaccuracy of such a statement as this, and the only conclusion that can be arrived at is that those first entrusted with the work guessed at the dimensions of the island and that their successors blindly copied their finding. Sense of duty was perhaps not so fully developed in bygone days as it is now—or was the risk of being found out less?—and the probability is that those sent to make Inventories of Produce gleaned what information they could concerning Lundy from people on the mainland who had visited the island—as prisoners for ransom perchance—and embodied that information in their report as though acquired first-hand and by personal inspection. Somewhat similarly a number of priests were presented and collated from 1325 onwards, all of whom doubtless drew their stipends with commendable regularity, but

whether any of them ever set foot on the island, much less lived on it, is open to very serious doubt.

From what is known of him it may be taken for granted that the late Rev. Hudson Grosett Heaven must have acquired a colossal amount of information about Lundy; but to the intellectual recluse, such as Mr. Heaven seems more or less to have been, the acquisition of knowledge, whether that knowledge be of art or history, of science or of legend, not infrequently develops into nothing more nor less than a species of 'Collectomania.' As the entomologist who becomes possessed of a butterfly of great rarity may say to himself, 'This is mine. I treasure it. I will share it with no man,' so may the searcher after knowledge whisper in his heart, 'It was I who captured this fact; no other person shall possess it during my lifetime.' What, most unfortunately, is so frequently overlooked by the latter is the fact that it is as easy and as much a duty, if not more so, to leave intangible knowledge to one's successors as it is to leave tangible Lepidoptera. It is not intended to infer that Mr. Heaven, of deliberate intent, took the record of his knowledge to the grave. Possibly he left written notes of his discoveries, and, in that case, there lies in the hands of somebody a document of intense interest and considerable value to the historical student.

Another source of information, usually so fruitful but lacking in the present instance, is the old inhabitant. Lundy has experienced vicissitudes almost innumerable. She has been the headquarters of a British slave-driver, of French privateers, of Spanish freebooters, of marauders from Morocco, of bloodthirsty pirates. In comparatively recent times she has changed hands again and again, and never, from the days of the de Mariscos till the coming of William Hudson Heaven, has she been ruled by one and the same man for more than a few years in succession. The natural and inevitable consequence of serving so many masters is that there are no 'natives'—there are no old inhabitants. The legends and traditions, the facts and the fancies, which are expected and accustomed to be met with throughout the countryside are here non-existent or practically so. One man there is who has spent some thirty years on the island—but what are thirty years to the searcher after history? Mr. Heaven with his fourscore years of residence is gone, and the knowledge he acquired seems to have died with him. As far as can be ascertained, no other owner has been personally resident on the island for any length of time, at any rate since the death of Olivia, second wife and widow of John de Marisco, in 1321. As far as later centuries are concerned this is not

altogether surprising, in view of the fact that the Manor Farm was not built until towards the end of the eighteenth century, and that previously to that a few rough cottages were, with the exception of what was left of Marisco Castle, the only shelter afforded on an island where, especially in winter-time, shelter was more than ordinarily a necessity.

Where, then, can we turn for knowledge? It must be collected little by little, piece by piece; a word here, a line there, a misty, unreliable rumour somewhere else. A few scanty references in Diocesan Records and Parish Registers; a few letters still extant; a few inadequate remarks in Inventories, the correctness of which is very questionable; a few—very few—local legends and traditions handed down through the years by word of mouth alone, and, even then, not from father to son. Such, together with what little may be gleaned from the Close Rolls, Hundred Rolls, Inquisitions *post mortem*, and the like, is the sum-total of material at the disposal of the compiler of a History of Lundy—a history which, could it but be traced, should be of absorbing interest.

As illustrative of the ignorance concerning Lundy in comparatively recent times the following extract from what was presumably considered a reputable book of reference may be quoted.

THE
LONDON ENCYCLOPÆDIA
OR
UNIVERSAL DICTIONARY
OF
SCIENCE, ART, LITERATURE & PRACTICAL MECHANICS,
COMPRISING A
POPULAR VIEW OF THE PRESENT STATE OF KNOWLEDGE.
By the original Editor of the Encyclopædia Metropolitana, assisted by eminent professional and other gentlemen.
LONDON:
PRINTED FOR T. T. & J. TEGG, 73, CHEAPSIDE.
1833.

'LUNDY, an island of England, fifty miles off the north-west coast of Devonshire, five miles long and two broad, but so encompassed with inaccessible rocks that it has but one entrance, so narrow that two men can scarcely go abreast. It is reckoned in the hundred of Branton. It had anciently a fort and a chapel. The soil on the south is very good, but barren on the north where it has a high pyramidical rock called the Constable. Horses, kine, hogs, goats, sheep, and rabbits abound in it; but the chief commodity is fowls, and their eggs are very thick on the ground at the season of breeding. In the reign of Henry VIII. one, William Marisco, who had conspired to murder him at Woodstock, fled to this island, which he fortified, turned pirate, and did much damage to this coast, but was at last taken, with sixteen of his gang, and put to death.'

'The London Encyclopædia or Universal Dictionary of Science' was published almost, if not

quite, within the memory of living man and yet scarcely an item of the matter devoted to Lundy but is incorrect. The island is twelve miles from Devon—not fifty. Its length and breadth are approximately three miles and half a mile respectively—not five and two. It is stated that 'it has but one entrance, so narrow that two men can scarcely go abreast,' whereas a good road was made by Sir Aubrey de Vere Hunt in 1819—no less than fourteen years before the appearance of this so-called Encyclopædia. The word 'fowls,' either in this publication or an earlier one from which it was copied, has led to confusion owing to its having been taken as having reference to domestic poultry, whereas wild sea-birds were, of course, intended. Finally William Marisco [*sic*] was executed in 1242 for his share in a plot to assassinate Henry III.—not Henry VIII.

If this was the 'present state of knowledge' possessed and published by 'eminent professional and other gentlemen' less than a century ago, it will be readily understood how difficult it is to separate the facts of early years from the fancies and misstatements of early chroniclers.

The latest edition (1911) of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' refers to the 'still inhabited Keep of Marisco Castle'; the cottages erected within the bare walls of that roofless stronghold were evacuated

in October 1917; it also speaks of Gannets as still resorting to the island, which they deserted in 1905.

The ancient name of Lundy appears to have been Herculea or Hercules' Island (it is so called by Dr. Stukely in his 'Itinerarium Curiosum'), that of Hartland Point being Herculis Promontorium or Herculis Columnae. In the 'Itinerary and Commentary de Situ Britanniae,' attributed to Richard of Cirencester, the island is mentioned as being visible from the towns of Artavia (Tintagel ?) and Termolus (South Molton). '*Visuntur hic Antiquis sic dictae Herculis Columnae, et non procul hinc Insula Herculea.*' Ptolemy, too, refers to Hartland Point as 'Herakleiâ Acté.' The less ancient name of Lundy has been in general use for many centuries and for the last two hundred and fifty years has shown no variation in the spelling. Previous to the eighteenth century, however, it is found written in many forms. In the Historical Record of the Canon of Oseney we find Londey; in the Hundred Rolls and in Stow, Londay and Londi; in Ecclesiastical Registers Londia and Londai are found; in the Grant to the Templars, Lundeia; Thomas de la More calls the island Lunday; Westcote prefers Landy; and other variations are Londey and Lounday. Various views as to the derivation of the name have been put forward at different times.

Westcote (1646), quite possibly in a joking spirit, wrote 'Lundy, or Landy, formed by the transposition of the I, setting it in front I - land in Latin Insula quae in salo posita.' In Isaac Taylor's 'Words and Places' (1864) the name is derived from a Norse word meaning 'Grove.' Lundy, however, is by no means favourable to trees, the surface soil being very shallow, and it is more than doubtful whether a sufficient number ever grew there to warrant the acquisition of such a name. Samuel Lewis (Topographical Dictionary, 1831, vol. iv., p. 183) remarks that 'plantations of various trees have been formed here at considerable labour and expense, but the prevalence of strong north-easterly winds has hitherto stunted their growth.' One of a pair of pictures, on the other hand, painted by a Frenchman in 1775 and presented some years ago to the Cardiff Gallery by Lord Rhondda, shows the island with groves of trees on its summit, but these were doubtless those planted in that year by Sir John Warren. At a meeting of the Devonshire Association held at Bideford on Thursday, August 17, 1871, it was suggested by the President, W. Pengelly, Esq., F.R.S., F.G.S., that the island 'might have got its name from the Viking Chief, Lun who was once in its neighbourhood,' and the probability of the name originating from some early Scandinavian was strongly supported by Canon Kingsley, who

pointed out that the prefix was a common type of Norse name and ' i ' an ordinary terminal of island. Opposed to this theory is the fact that no definite evidence is forthcoming, either from early Saxon chronicles or elsewhere, of a Norse occupation of the island, though the undoubted presence of large forces of Danes at constantly recurring intervals and for long periods on the adjacent mainland points to the probability of Lundy, with its obvious advantages as a rendezvous and place of shelter, having been occupied by them.

The generally accepted and most probable derivation is from the Norwegian and Icelandic words ' Lunde ' (a puffin) and ' ey ' (an island), and it is noteworthy that the Rev. F. C. R. Jourdain in the course of ornithological expeditions to the coasts of Norway has run across many small and little-known islands frequented by those birds which bear the name Lundy or a variation of it (F. C. R. J. *in litt.*). If this derivation of the word is accepted the correct appellation must be Lundy *tout court*—Lundy Island being a redundancy.

In ' Ootheca Wolleyana,' vol. ii., p. 404, John Wolley applies the name Lundi to the puffin in such a manner as to convey the impression that this was the common name of the bird in the Faroës, of which he was writing, in 1850. ' On a holm, like the Doreholm in Shetland, between Tindholm and the main island

called Vaagöe, is a chain hanging down like a bell-rope to assist in climbing to the slope where *Lundis* breed.'

Of the Lundy of prehistoric times but little is known. Traces of a very early occupation are not lacking, but hitherto little or nothing has been done on the island in the way of excavation or archæological research. A mound marked on the Ordnance Survey map and two other somewhat similar mounds are all the evidence remaining visible of a number of round-towers which were at one time built on the island. Of their origin or use nothing definite is known. They 'are supposed to be of great antiquity and, from the descriptions which have been handed down, appear to have had many of the characteristics of the Irish round-towers, in shape, size, and position of the doorways much above the ground-level, which may be explained by the intimate associations of the earlier Marisco lords with Ireland. Other accounts suggest their having been built as places of refuge for the Islanders from invaders and pirates. They must have been carefully and strongly built with worked or selected stone united not by lime mortar but with a tenacious clay cement, probably hardened by fire. Most of them are now razed to the ground, showing only heaps of ruins. The most perfect is about the middle of the north part of the island, on an

elevation just west of Tippett's Hill. The inner diameter is fifteen feet; only a few feet of the lower part, and that much buried in *débris*, now remains. Another stood until just recently just above the landing-place.'

Thus J. R. Chanter before the Devonshire Association in 1871. At the present day, as intimated above, all but three have disappeared altogether and those three are marked by no more than low mounds. We challenge Chanter's contention that these round-towers were in any way connected with 'the earlier Marisco lords,' and suggest that they were built long previous to the occupation of the island by, at any rate, Sir Jordan de Marisco, the first of the family whom we know to have inhabited Lundy, that being in the middle of the twelfth century.

It is worth recording that an hour's work with a pick and crowbar on the Tibbett's Hill mound, in June 1922, revealed a roughly squared granite block, more or less truly orientated, which, on being raised, disclosed two similar blocks, parallel to each other and at right angles to the first. Amongst the earth thrown out two small pieces of flint were found, one of them a 'flake,' the other an obvious artefact, and within a few yards of the spot a second and more perfect artefact was picked up in July 1923. No flint is indigenous to the island, and of the implement

last discovered, the finder, Mr. Franklin White, M.Inst.M. & M., writes : ' The implement can, I consider, be called a quartzite, probably from the slates of the carboniferous formation which is the rock round Barnstaple, Bideford, Torrington, etc.' Mr. Townsend M. Hall, in a Paper on the Geology of North Devon, read before the Exeter Field Naturalists' Club on September 23, 1865, refers to local stone implements in the following words :

> The principal beds of drift (Post-Tertiary) may be seen in the railway cutting at Fremington Station, between Bideford and Barnstaple, along the coast towards Clovelly, and at Baggy Point opposite. In this last locality it is about sixteen feet thick and is associated with a fine example of a raised beach. On the top of the drift, and below four feet of compact and undisturbed alluvial soil, I have at different times found a number of those flint tools which have lately excited such universal interest.

It may, perhaps, be assumed that the inhabitants of Lundy at the time when the implements found thereon were in use were contemporary with the owners of the weapons discovered by Mr. Townsend M. Hall. How these people got to the island—if island it were in those days—is open to speculation, in view of the terrific tide-races which surround it. Admiralty charts show that the depth of water between Lundy and the mainland north-east is considerably less than in any other direction, and

the possibility must not be overlooked of the island having at that time formed the extremity of the western bank of the River Severn.

Traces of a Hut Circle are visible, though barely, in the vicinity of the mounds, and a 'Kist-vaen,' or ancient stone burial-place, may be found near the south-western extremity of the island. The latter was discovered in 1851 and described shortly afterwards by P. H. Gosse as follows :

> One of the men had noticed in a particular part of the moor that the earth returned a hollow sound. On digging, a block of granite was found a little below the surface ; it was about eighteen inches thick, and was estimated to weigh five tons. Its ends rested on two upright slabs, enclosing a cavity some six feet deep and as many wide. It was evident that the excavation had been made and the stones placed by human labour, and the latter operation must have been one of no small difficulty from the great weight of the slabs ; but for what purpose it could have been made there was no clue to inform us. No subterranean passage was observed, though the earth on one side was so loose as to suggest the notion that such a communication might once have existed. A fragment of pottery was the only object found. There was a rank odour in the cavity very different from that of newly turned soil ; the earth, too, at one end was black and of an unctuous appearance, but no trace of bone or other organised matter could be found.

According to the continuation of Mr. Gosse's account the cavity bore a striking resemblance to that known as Wayland Smith's Cave in Berkshire—

unquestionably a monument of the early British period. In view of the fact that in Berkshire the earth had accumulated until it was *level* with the covering stone and that on Lundy the upper slab was *entirely covered* with mould, Mr. Gosse advances the probability of the latter being at least as old as, if not older than, its mainland counterpart.

In 1850, during the digging of some foundations near the farmhouse, an interesting discovery was made, of which J. R. Chanter's account is here given, that being the only one extant which is even remotely contemporary.

It consisted, first, of two stone coffins or cists, built up with large square blocks of granite, the covers squared and formed of a single block each. They were not flat-topped, but with a sideways slope, and were just deep enough to allow the bodies to be placed in them. The coffins were placed side by side. The first was just ten feet long, and had within it a stone rest or pillow for the head and another for the feet. The head-rest was formed of a cubic piece of fine granite, with a deep depression carefully worked out in it exactly the size and shape to allow a head lying sideways to rest in the hollow. The other cist was much the same, only without the pillows, and was only about eight feet long. The large one was more than half filled up round and over the skeleton with limpet shells, and both were covered with several inches of soil.

Each of these tombs contained a skeleton of unusual size. That in the first coffin with the stone pillow and foot-rest was gigantic, and, had there not been satisfactory evidence on the subject, would have been considered

incredible. The second skeleton was also several inches above the average height and was imagined to be that of a woman.

Mr. Heaven was present at the discovery and had the large skeleton carefully measured as it lay, before the bones were allowed to be moved. It was quite perfect, and the bones all in place when the measure was taken. It proved to be eight feet two inches long. After this, one of the workmen, a man of average stature, took up the shin bone of the leg, and to compare it, placed it against his own leg, when it reached more than half-way up his thigh from his foot, and the lower jaw-bone easily fitted over his lower jaw outside his beard, whiskers and all.

There were seven other skeletons buried in the same line with the stone graves, but without coffins and of the ordinary stature, and then came a mass of bones of all sorts and sizes, as if many corpses of men, women and children had been thrown indiscriminately into a common grave or pit. A few sherds of red pottery and some very peculiar beads were mixed with the bones. Some of the beads were of semi-opaque, light blue stone or glass, most of them spherical, but others a peculiar dumb-bell shape. And there were also fragmentary remains of ornaments of copper or bronze, which were apparently hollow, and about the size of a walnut; but unfortunately no careful search or investigation was made, and the bones were immediately reinterred, and only a few of the beads, which were pierced, have been preserved [now in the Bristol Museum, together with some fragments of pottery]. A large quantity of limpet shells lay over the heap. The place is called by the workmen ' The Giants' Graves.'

It is most difficult [Chanter continues] to assign an era, or to account for this sepulture; the remains of women and children preclude the idea of its betokening the slain in

a battle, but rather the indiscriminate slaughter of an entire population. But then the elaborate character of the two stone cists remains unaccounted for, as well as their peculiar shape and the gigantic contents. It is said that human bones have occasionally been ploughed up in various other parts of the Island, all of which, as well as this remarkable sepulture, I would refer to the early British or Celtic period. One visitor, however, has considered the graves as of Danish fashion, referring them to the period of the great battle of Kenwith Castle, near Appledore, in 894, when the raven Standard was taken and Hubba slain, it having been the custom of the Danes to remove their dead, and Lundy would be the nearest point to which the defeated army and ships could retreat. [Mr. Heaven is said to have exclaimed, when the skeleton was uncovered, 'It is Hubba, the Dane.'] I much doubt, however, this suggestion, as neither Hubba, his brother Hingvar, nor any of the Danish Chieftains, are recorded as having been of such unusual stature, or certainly the Saxon Chronicler, Asser, and others who have given so many minute particulars of these heroes and of the battle itself, would have noticed it.

There is also the presence of the woman, if the second skeleton was that of a woman, to be accounted for. Another suggestion that presents itself is that the two giants were the lord of Lundy and his lady, the seven skeletons found without coffins those of seven men of some importance, and the contents of the common grave the remains of slaves and their offspring, all slain to bear their master company on his journey into the great unknown.

Inquiries made of Mr. Reginald Smith, Curator

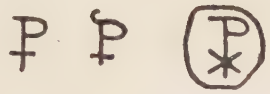
of the Department of British and Mediæval Antiquities at the British Museum, elicited a letter (for which the compiler herewith records his indebtedness) in which Mr. Smith says :

> The account is not conclusive, but I think the coffins must be mediæval—the hollowed head-rest is found in coffins of 12–13 century. . . . The dumb-bell beads remind me of an Irish type, generally regarded as Early Iron Age but referred to the Viking period by the late Mr. Armstrong in *Man*, 1921, No. 40, though he does not specially mention this type. Can the ' hollow bronze ornaments the size of a walnut ' be the (joined) ' rivet-heads ' (really ornamental studs) of a coffin ? I have seen things of that kind lately from London.

The Curator of the Bristol Museum, however, classes the beads as Roman, and a bronze fragment as probably part of a boss from a shield. The possibilities are so numerous and the data so meagre that it will be impossible to draw any definite conclusion unless the remains are exhumed once more.

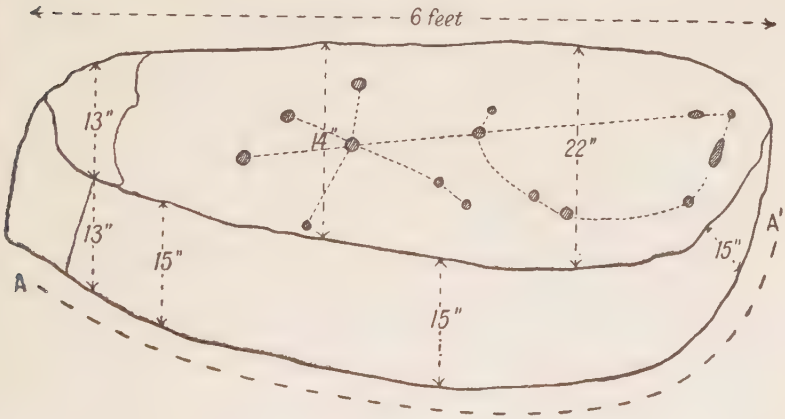
A large granite block, roughly shaped, which now lies near the Rocket House, is stated to have been found lying above the coffin, and there is a story that the late Rev. H. G. Heaven expressed a wish that it might serve as his tombstone. On the upper side are a number of holes, roughly drilled, and it will be seen by referring to the plan that these, when joined up in a certain manner, form by their extremities and intersections a rude representation

of the ancient Xρ which is found in variants thus:



and may represent the cross and crown.

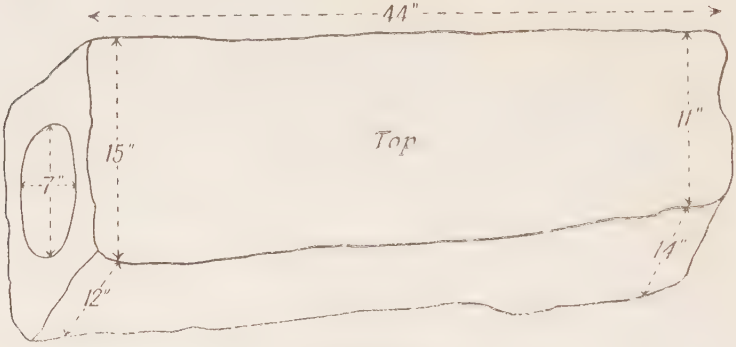
This may, of course, be pure coincidence. The granite block is known as the 'Giant's Stone.'



Giant's Stone

In the grounds of the Villa is a stone which some call the 'Giant's Headstone,' averring that it is the 'pillow' found in the coffin and that the Giant's head rested in the hollow at its top. That, owing to its size, would seem to be an impossibility, and a second, and less popular story—that it was unearthed during the excavations made for the foundations of the Villa—was long preferred by the writer. But

a recent letter from Dr. J. C. Heaven, of Bristol, here quoted in part, goes far to prove that the first story is the correct one.



Giant's Pillow

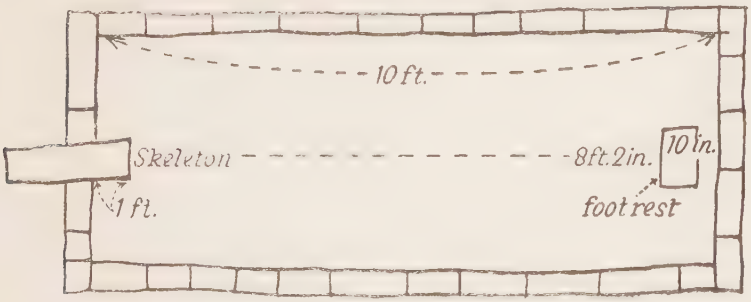
With regard to the Villa stone the facts are as follows: It remained on the farm premises until the farm (which till 1885 was carried on directly by Mr. William H. Heaven, my great-uncle, who 'was present at the discovery' (*vide* Chanter), and after him by the Rev. H. G. Heaven, his son) was let to a tenant. Then, fearing that it might be put to some secular use (such as a gate-post) by the tenant, the Rev. H. G. Heaven, my cousin, had it brought down to the Villa for safety, and there it has remained ever since. My wife, who is grand-daughter of the above W. H. Heaven and whose home was the Villa, remembers its arrival there and the reason for its removal from the farm. I also know it was not at the Villa for years after I knew the Island, my knowledge of which dates from 1864, and I quite well remember its appearance there and being told its nature and history.

The above must entirely negative 'the less popular story' that it was found when the Villa foundations were being made, an idea which I now hear of for the first time and which

evidently originated in the fertile imagination of someone who had no knowledge of the facts, and in support of which there is no evidence. There is no one on the Island now who can have knowledge of the stone's history. It has fallen to the lot of my wife and myself to go through letters detailing the work of the building of the Villa when the Island first came into Mr. W. H. Heaven's possession, and there was no mention of the finding of any such stone then ; such a find would doubtless have been alluded to.

I think you can have no doubt that this stone is the 'pillow' mentioned in Chanter's book.

Your objection that, owing to its size, the stone could not have been 'in the coffin' can be met in this way : The cists (not 'coffins' in the ordinary sense) were 'built up with square blocks of granite,' and it is quite probable that the stone in question was laid in position and built up to in such a way that it projected beyond the wall of the head of the cist—as suggested in the following sketch.



I was talking with Dr. Bolton, Curator of the Bristol Museum, on the subject and he suggested this idea as probable : I was glad he did so, as it confirmed the same idea which was in my own mind but of which I had not spoken to him. This arrangement would, of course, mean that the top, or dome, of the skull rested in the hollow of the stone ;

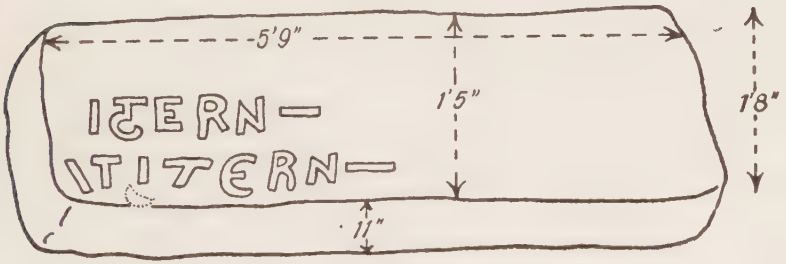
that is, that the stone was like an elongated hat. The shape of the hollow suggests to me, as a doctor, the top and not the side of the head, and there is no groove for the neck. However, this is more or less beside the mark: the fact remains that the stone at the Villa is the so-called 'pillow' found in the grave. My wife states that she remembers this stone lying just outside the Shippon entrance, alongside another granite stone which is still there; it was in digging the foundations for an enlargement of the Shippon that the graves were found. She also states that the arrangement of the stone in the cist, as described to her by the Rev. H. G. Heaven, was that given in the sketch.

The only other 'worked' stone which has as yet been discovered, if we except those found on the site of one of the round-towers and not carefully examined, and the Punch-bowl referred to hereafter, is one unearthed in the old burial-ground during the excavation of a grave in 1905, and to which no attention appears to have been paid until the summer of 1923. The following paragraph appeared in *The Antiquaries' Journal* for October 1923 (vol. iii., No. 4, pp. 372–373):—

The accompanying diagrams [here omitted] are from independent sketches kindly sent by Captain Lewis Loyd and Mr. Franklin White, and represent a stone with so uneven a surface that there may be some doubt as to the lettering, though the meaning is fairly certain. The slab is of granite, roughly shaped, with an average length of 5½ feet and breadth of 1½ feet, and may be seen in a corner of the burial-ground on Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel. The inscription is cut out ¼-inch deep, and is confined

Burial Ground and Stone of Tigernus

to one face. . . . The sketches have been submitted to our Fellow, Mr. Henry Jenner, who suggests the reading (T) IGERNI TIGERNI, a personal name in the genitive, the meaning being—The tombstone (or, In memory) of Tigernus son of Tigernus. The recumbent I is very common and almost invariably marks the end of a word, and the sickle-shaped G is mentioned in *V. C. H. Cornwall*, i, 411, in Mr. Arthur Langdon's chapter on Early Christian monuments. The name here latinised is the Gaelic Tighearna or Welsh Teyrn, meaning Prince or Lord, and would date the stone



Stone of Tigernus

towards the end of the period 450–650 on account of its direction along the stone, those across the stone being the earlier. Some of the above points are discussed in Mr. Jenner's paper on a Cornish example in *Journal of Royal Institution of Cornwall*, No. 69 (1922); and both the material and lettering point to a connection with Cornwall rather than South Wales.

In Scotland the Laird in some parts is still called Tighearna, and his lady Bhantighearna—Tigh is the Gaelic for a house—thus, Tigh mhor, the great house (v. 'A Hundred Years in the Highlands,' by Osgood Mackenzie). It may be that St. Melor

of Llantigern (the church of Tigern) and Amesbury Abbey were connected in some way with the Lundy stone.

Whoever was laid to rest beneath this granite block must have been a man of considerable importance, for his grave was *within* the walls of the old chapel, a fairly full account of which will be found in the chapter devoted to the Ecclesiastical History of Lundy.

For the description of another curious object, of which, unfortunately, no trace can be found, it will be well once more to quote Mr. Gosse.

> Lying on the side of a valley which takes its name from the object itself, the Punch-bowl Valley (through which runs a little brook, which originates near the middle of the island, forming there a small lake or pond), is a basin of solid granite, four feet in diameter and one in depth, with a uniform thickness of six inches. Both the concave and convex surfaces are segments of very perfect spheres, and the whole conformation is so regular as scarcely to admit a doubt that it is the work of art ; and yet when we enquire what could be the purpose of such a piece of sculpture, or how it could have got to a situation so wild, so remote from any trace of man, and altogether so unlikely as the side of this boggy valley, especially considering that its weight must have presented no small obstacle to its removal from any other locality, we know not what answer can be returned.

Mr. Gosse hazards the theory that the Punch-bowl may have been the baptismal font of some very ancient chapel of which no vestige now remains—

a suggestion which Chanter stigmatises as 'a rather lame one,' though with this others may hesitate to agree. It is at least remarkable that all efforts to find any trace of the font which must certainly have formed a part of the furniture of the very ancient Chapel of S. Elen have been entirely unsuccessful.

Dr. J. C. Heaven, however, who saw the stone very many times before it was destroyed, agreed with Chanter, saying that 'it never suggested itself as a font, but strongly suggested a lower millstone.' Dr. Heaven adds, quite truly, that 'it is quite likely there was a small mill in Punch-bowl Valley worked by water from Pondsbury, from which pond there is a shallow depression of the surface leading down to the top of Punch-bowl Valley.'

The Rocking Stone, rock basins, and so forth, 'which visionary or enthusiastic observers used generally to ascribe to the Druids and their worship,' are so surely for the most part, if not in every case, the work of Nature that they will be referred to only in the chapter devoted to Natural Features.

By far the largest and most important building on the island is that known as Marisco Castle, the walls of the keep of which, nine feet in thickness, are alone left standing. Its condition over a century and three-quarters ago is thus described in a manuscript, quoted by Chanter, entitled 'Journal of the time we spent in the Island of Lundy, July 4th, 1787.'

It was written by one of the party which 'sailed from Appledore in the *Viper*, sloop-of-war, commanded by Lieut. Chrymes, with Mr. Cleveland, Capt. Barton, N. Cutcliffe, and Rev. Mr. Smith of Westleigh,' Mr. Cleveland being at that time the owner of the island.

Walked in the evening to the Castle, or rather, its site ; the Castle is entirely demolished. It stood at the extreme south of the Island, facing Hartland Point, on two acres of ground, and was surrounded by a stone wall, with a ditch, excepting towards the sea, where the rock is almost perpendicular. The ditch is very visible, and part of the wall, though most of them have been destroyed for the purpose of building offices for farming. The walls of the Citadel are very perfect, of a square form. It is converted into cottages, the turrets, of which there are four, one to each angle, serving as chimneys. The south-west wall is fifty-one feet, the north-west thirty-eight feet in length. The garrison was supplied with water from a spring which rises above the house built by Sir John Warren. It was conveyed from thence in earthen pipes. At the extremity of the rock, within the fortification, is a cave, supposed to be cut out of the rock for a store-room or magazine for the garrison ; its form shows its great antiquity.

This cave is now called Benson's Cave, and is supposed to have been used by him for the reception of the cargo of a vessel named the *Nightingale*, which he caused to be scuttled about the year 1753. It has even been said that the excavation was made by Benson's orders for that special

Marisco Castle

The Castle Keep

purpose, and a small stronghold faced with brick on the left of the entrance may have been added by him, but the cavity itself is undoubtedly of great age. It is made in the slate and is ten feet high, ten feet wide, and about twenty paces in length. The entrance is formed by a long slab resting on two upright ones.

Grose, in his 'Antiquities of England and Wales' (1773–1787), gives a description of the Castle, which was probably erected by Sir William de Marisco (1199–1235), and must in those days have been almost impregnable. In 1222 permission was granted to Sir William to fortify it with mangonells moved from his Somersetshire property at Camley, and there is evidence that it was refortified, and probably remodelled, in the time of the civil wars. To this day at least two cannon of the latter period, dismounted and thrown over by the French in the reign of William III., may be seen on the beach at low water, except when, as occasionally happens, they are for a time buried under an accumulation of shingle thrown up by rough seas. It is probable that an outer tower or barbican protected the entrance on the land side; and there was doubtless a track alternative to the main approach, and since washed away, leading down to Lametry Bay on the south side.

Chanter's unsupported assertion that the Castle

' was certainly in existence as early as the eleventh century, when Sir Jordan de Marisco was the lord,' is obviously incorrect. Sufficient evidence against this being the case may be found in the fact that Sir Jordan de Marisco's wife, Agnes, was a daughter of Hamelin Plantagenet, who was a natural son of the father of Henry II., with whom he (Hamelin Plantagenet) must have been, therefore, more or less contemporary. Henry II. was not born until 1133, and Sir Jordan is known to have been resident on Lundy in 1155, when, owing to his turbulent conduct, the island was declared forfeit to the Crown. Probably Chanter intended to write ' twelfth century,' and the style of architecture points to the building having been erected somewhat late in that period. Like those of the round-towers already dealt with, the stones of Marisco Castle were laid in a peculiar hardened clay cement. The outer walls ran along the very edge of the cliff, and the stronghold dominated and commanded not only the bay and landing coves, but practically the whole of the southern part of the island. To the south-east stretches the peninsula of Lametor or Lametry, joined to the Castle plateau by a knife-edged ridge, beyond which lie Rat Island and its satellite, Mouse Island, the former really consisting of two or three islands at high water and the latter being completely submerged at that time.

Running north and south across the main part

of Rat Island are clearly visible the remains of what at one time must have been a dyke of very considerable dimensions, but even its approximate age is as yet undetermined. The peculiar spot chosen for such a fortification may, perhaps, be explained by the probability of Rat Island having been one with the main island at the time of its construction, as seen in the plan below.

The damage done to Marisco Castle by the end of the eighteenth century was completed as far as possible early in the next by Irish peasants introduced as labourers by Sir Aubrey de Vere Hunt (1818–1830). By them all the woodwork then remaining was broken down and used for fuel, including the massive oaken entrance gates and posts erected at the time of the preparation of the Castle for the reception of Edward II. (1326). Since then much of the original two acres on which the stronghold stood has been built over with coast-guard stations and other unsightly erections, which

would have been just as useful and convenient (though no less unsightly) on less interesting ground a few yards to one side or the other.

During the civil wars, and subsequently, numerous batteries and fortifications were erected round the island. Unlike the Castle and round-towers most of these were built with mortar, but, none the less, few of their old walls remain.

In the 'Journal' of 1787, already quoted, we read :

> You find on many parts of the Island, where there was the least chance of landing, upwards of forty ancient structures of stonework, some without any cement, and others strongly united with it, on which guns were planted in Queen Anne's war with the French, when the enemy greatly infested the coasts of the Bristol Channel. I saw the remains of one of the guns on a platform facing the east, which was burst with powder, and another gun on the beach near the landing place. Every accessible part was strongly fortified, and could be defended by few hands, as the coast is almost perpendicular and the rocks of a great height.

The three fortifications now most easily discernible are one just north of Jenny's Cove on the west, one below the Puffin Slope on the north-east, and one south of Gannets' Combe on the east side. The last named was erected by William, first Viscount Saye and Sele, during the reign of Charles I. (probably in 1646), and mounted with brass cannon, from which it derived the name of

'Brazen Ward,' by which it is still known. These brass guns were thrown over by the French when the island was taken by them during the reign of William and Mary, and for many years—probably as many as 150—lay clearly visible from a boat at low water when the sea was calm. As to what eventually happened to them there are several conflicting reports. One is that they were sold to a salvage company and duly salved; another that they were stolen by a tug-master and taken to Cleave for sale. A third story, which is the most probable and given without question by Chanter, is that they were fished up by the tenant of the farm and sold to a Mr. Crawshay, who had them mounted on his yacht somewhere about the year 1865.

Of other buildings or ruins of interest on the island there are but few, with the exception of the three lighthouses and the church, which will be dealt with separately. Grose mentions the remains of a house near S. Helen's Well, a watch-house near the landing-place, and another at the north end. This last, remnants of which may still be seen, received the name of 'John o' Groat's House' from some Scotchmen who once rented the shooting, and by that name it is still known. There was also a building called the Summer House in Gannets' Combe, but all trace of this has disappeared. Various small mounds, scattered over the island,

have traditional names, such as Jock's House and the Widow's House (near the site of which, on the west cliff, lies a large millstone bearing mute testimony to agricultural activities in years gone by), and here cottages doubtless once stood, a fact further borne out by the presence in their vicinity of many old-fashioned flowers and herbs—the hardy descendants of plants in the cottage gardens. Most of these buildings, however, are difficult, and many impossible, to trace.

S. Helen's Church and Manor House Hotel

CHURCH HISTORY

THE ecclesiastical history of Lundy is obscure. The date assigned to the stone of Tigernus, unearthed during the digging of a grave in 1905 *within* the walls of the old chapel, points to there having been some place of worship on the island as early as the sixth century, if not earlier. The suggestion made by Gosse that the Punch-bowl may have been the font of some very ancient chapel, all trace of which is now lost, has already been recorded. Referring to the missionary saints of the British Church, the Rev. E. Boggis writes in his 'History of the Diocese of Exeter': 'Among others who came from Wales . . . was the widowed Queen Helen, or Elen, commemorated at Helland and Abbotsham churches and the chapel on Lundy Island.' Owing to this commemoration a Celtic origin has been attributed to the chapel. Queen Helen, also known as S. Elen, Elene, and Helene, *regina et vidua*, is commented on by the Rev. J. F. Chanter in 'Saints of Devon' as follows:

S. Elen is the founder of the church at Abbotsham. In the Tavistock Kalendar she is described, under August 25, as S. Elene regina. She is probably the British Princess

known in Welsh traditions as Elen of the Hosts, wife of Maxim Wledig, a king of Britain who aspired to be Emperor of Rome. He defeated Gratian and was for a short time Emperor in the west, but was himself defeated by Theodosius and killed A.D. 388. In later times S. Elen was so often confounded with S. Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine, that it is often difficult to decide which is alluded to.

This frequent confusion would seem to be responsible for the fact that it is to S. Helen that the modern church is dedicated, as her effigy over the porch—bearing her emblem, the True Cross—testifies.

The first authentic mention of the Chapel or Church of Lundy is found in Bishop Stapeldon's Register of 1325, where it is referred to as 'Ecclesia Sancte Elene de Londai.' In 1350 we find in Bishop Grandisson's Register 'Ecclesia parochialis sancte Helene de Lounday,' and in 1353, also in Bishop Grandisson's Register, 'Sancte Helena de Lundy.'

Risdon writes of 'S. Hellea's Chapel,' whereof the ruins might yet be seen in his day (*temp.* Queen Elizabeth). If we accept the dedication of the original chapel as having been to S. Elen, and also the stone of Tigernus as belonging to the period A.D. 450–650, the probable date of foundation is to some extent narrowed down—that is, to some time between the death of S. Elen's husband (388) and 650,—and it is probably safe to assume

that the chapel has been in existence for some fourteen hundred years.

The dimensions of the building, the outlines of which may yet be traced without undue difficulty, were 25 feet 7 inches by 12 feet 9 inches. The walls are said to have been well and solidly built, the same peculiar clay cement having been used in their construction as was employed in the Castle and round-towers. They are now entirely levelled to the ground, the final destruction being wrought by members of the Ordnance Survey who occupied the site as their signal station and used the stones for their cairn. According to Chanter, ' there seems to have been some ornamentation, with arcades of worked stone,' but no trace of this can now be found.

To the chapel was attached an ' Oratory of S. Anne '—whether a side chapel, a second altar, or what, is not known—which may possibly have been instituted by the de Mariscos, who lived on the island more or less regularly from the twelfth to the fourteenth century. Numerous chapels are dedicated to S. Anne in North Devon, the ascription generally being given to wells or well-chapels; and it is worthy of note that ' Parson's Well ' is close by, half-way between the burial-ground and Friar's Garden, an enclosure to the south, nearly an acre in extent, but now no longer traceable (the walls having been levelled and the whole site ploughed over during the

temporary absence from the island of the owner, Rev. H. G. Heaven, much, it is said, to that gentleman's annoyance and mortification). 'Friar's Garden' is said to have been coffin-shaped, as a continual reminder to the friar of the brevity of human existence.

Risdon describes the island as 'plentifully served with fresh water springs,' and 'Golden Well,' 'S. John's Well,' and 'S. Helen's Well' still survive. Samuel Lewis refers to 'the ruins of an ancient chapel dedicated to S. Anne' as though it was an entirely separate building from that dedicated to S. Elen, which is improbable.

A walled burial-ground of considerable size surrounding the chapel bears evidence of being the last resting-place of many a score, the names of all but a very few forgotten or unknown. A large percentage of those interred in this desolate spot were doubtless shipwrecked mariners—strangers to those who buried them; others may have been contemporary with Tigernus, whose tombstone was found within the chapel walls during the excavation in 1905 of the grave of Miss Amelia Heaven, who lies in the ancient chancel with her father and brother, lords of Lundy from 1836 till 1916, and several other members of the Heaven family. A legend that William, first Viscount Saye and Sele, the builder of 'Brazen Ward' (1646), was buried on

Lundy, is without foundation. He rests with his wife in the church by Broughton Castle, Banbury.

The chapel was situated on the highest point of the island, close to where the old lighthouse now stands, and, in spite of its having been in ruins in Queen Elizabeth's time (Risdon), we are told that it was used, at any rate for the solemnisation of marriages, until the days of William and Mary—over 100 years later—and it has even been said that occasional services were held within its walls as recently as 1747.

In 1274 and for some time thereafter the spiritual needs of the islanders were probably supplied (if at all) by the monks of the Abbey of Hartland, for, according to Bishop Stapledon's Register, Lundy was then attached to the Lordship of Hartland, as appears by an Inquisition of the Manor and Abbey of Hartland extracted from the Hundred Rolls.

3rd Edward I. Hertiland.—Veredictum duodicum Juratorum, etc. Dicunt quod Dominus Oliverus de Dineham tenet Maner de Hertiland in Capiti, etc.

Dicunt quod Insula de Londay est escœta Domini Regis per Mortem Wilhelmi de Maresco felonis et Dominus Holovrinus tenet dictam Insulam per Bayiam regis Henrici patris Edwardi Regis qui nunc est, nesciunt quo warranto.

Subsequently Lundy appears to have become a distinct parish, and between the years 1325 and 1355 six rectors were instituted, the careers of most of whom it is possible to trace to some extent

from the indices of the Bishop's Registers. The frequent changes noticeable are attributed by the Rev. E. Boggis to the Black Death, but a more probable explanation is that the majority of the divines lost the living automatically owing to inattention to their duties.

(1) 1325. June 5. Sir Walter le Bitte, presented 'Ecclesie Sancti Elene de Londai' by Hugh le Despenser. Sir Walter le Bitte (or le Bot) resigned in 1332 and was instituted to Gidleigh, where he died in 1347.

(2) 1333. March 6. Robert de Hadestock, clerk, presented by William, Lord Montacute. Referred to as 'rector ecc. parochialis de Londay,' but of whom we have no further record.

(3) 1338. March 16. Sir William de Tettewelle. Collated per lapsum temporis. It is recorded that Sir William de Tettewelle or de Tethwell resigned in 1348 and was instituted to Feniton in the following year.

(4) 1350. July 1. Sir Thomas de Wynkleghe. Collated per lapse. Became rector of Coleridge in 1351, Lundy remaining without a rector for at least two years.

(5) 1353. August 14. Sir David Kelynge. Collated 'ad Parochialem Ecclesiam Sancti Helene.'

(6) 1355. February 3. Sir Nicolas Comyn. Collated per lapse. Resigned the living of Nymet

Rowland, to which he had been instituted rector in 1350, for Lundy.

All, except the first two, were collated by Bishop Grandisson. Of other rectors of Lundy, if there were any, either before or after, there is no record until the institution and induction on August 9, 1922, by the Bishop of Crediton of the Rev. H. H. Lane, whose collation paper bears the name *as his immediate predecessor* of Sir Nicolas Comyn, 1355—an interval of no less than 567 years.

The ecclesiastical position of Lundy is anomalous, as it would appear, strictly speaking, to be not only extra-parochial but extra-diocesan, having been left pretty much to itself since the suppression of the monasteries. The right of patronage, therefore, is somewhat obscure and opens the road to considerable argument. In the Rolls of Westminster is an entry recording the fact that at the time of the suppression of the monasteries the patronage of Lundy was vested in Cleeve Abbey, Somerset, and surrendered, together with a number of others, in that year (1527). It then, presumably, passed into the hands of the Crown, since any endowment, if such existed, followed the fortunes of the abbey in whose gift the patronage lay; but it must be remembered that if the Crown fails to fill a living in its gift within six months of its becoming vacant the right lapses to the Bishop, in a further six months to the

Archbishop, then to the Crown once more after a similar interval, and so on in rotation.

The Abbey and Convent of Cleeve do not seem to have presented any rector or chaplain to serve the Lundy church, though possibly entries of their having done so may have been lost when, as it is said, their records, which had been sent to London for some purpose, were destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666. The patronage is now claimed by the Bishop of Exeter, and nobody could do anything but approve the step he has taken. But had he, technically, any right? No name of any patron occurs in the diocesan Kalendar of Exeter, and it is probable that no serious inquiry as to the 'true patronage' has been made since the dissolution of Cleeve Abbey. Mr. W. H. Heaven is said to have assumed that the Lord of the Manor was the patron, a state of things which would certainly seem to have existed in the days of Hugh le Despenser in 1325. Has anybody worked out the exact time that elapsed between the date of surrender of the patronage by Cleeve Abbey and August 9, 1922, and discovered therefrom whether, on the latter date, the living was in the gift of Crown, Bishop, or Archbishop? Did the last purchaser take over Crown rights with the island? If so, any priest on Lundy would be there only at his pleasure. Even if the right remained with Crown, Bishop, or Archbishop, the owner would have the

power to deny access, for the only people who have the right to land on the island are the Brethren and officials of Trinity House, and they only in their official capacity.

Again, Lundy is supposed to be 'duty-free.' There are no licensing laws on the island, no dog or gun licences, no conscription, and it is said no help or protection can be claimed from England in time of trouble. If these are facts, which there is very little reason to doubt, does it not follow that no county, constituency, or diocese can lay claim to Lundy, and not even the Crown? None of this is of any very great importance, but, purely as an argument, is not devoid of interest. There is a legend that the rector had the right to style himself 'Captain of Lundy,' and to claim all flotsam and jetsam, but no authority for this tradition can be found, nor any record of such a right having been exercised.

The Rev. Hudson Grosett Heaven, Lord of the Manor, was licensed curate-in-charge in 1864 and granted the courtesy title of vicar in 1886. As titular vicar he ministered until 1911, the services being held until 1897 in a tin-roofed structure (consecrated by Bishop Bickersteth in 1884), wittily described by the Rev. H. H. Lane as a 'corrugated irony,' the foundations of which may be seen just outside the high wall of the Manor House garden. Mr. Heaven was never formally instituted as vicar,

his official style being 'minister-in-charge.' In 1885 were laid the foundations of the present church, dedicated to S. Helen, wife of Constantius and mother of Constantine the Great. The materials used for the building were drawn largely from a number of uninhabited cottages which had been erected for the use of the quarrymen (over two hundred of whom were employed at one time) and a Trinity House building attached to the old lighthouse. S. Helen's has a seating capacity of 165, and the wisdom of pulling down nearly every habitable house in the island (the entire population of which, including officials, is only just over forty), to construct so large a building is somewhat questionable.

The church is a handsome one, with a square tower, chiming clock, and peal of eight bells. The roof is covered with stone tiles from the Tetbury quarries in Gloucestershire, which are themselves of interest, being an oölitic formation 'found within a few feet of the surface of the ground, overlying a bed of clay, and, though at an altitude of 200 feet above sea-level, encrusted on the upper surface with myriads of small fossilised sea-shells of beautiful shape and colour.' It comprises nave and chancel, is furnished with pulpit, eagle-lectern and screen, and boasts a handsome reredos and two stained-glass windows, one of which commemorates William Hudson Heaven and his wife, the parents of the

Looking up Millcombe

The "Village"

donor. It was built almost entirely at the expense of Mr. Heaven and its completion fulfilled his dearest wish. The architect was Mr. John Norton, F.R.I.B.A., the stained glass the work of Messrs. Clayton & Bell, of London, and the pulpit, altar, screen, font, lectern, and very handsome reredos by Messrs. Harry Hems & Sons, of Exeter. The bands and diaper of blue and cream-coloured bricks with which the interior red-brick walls are embellished are from Staffordshire and Marland respectively. The encaustic tiles in the chancel and sanctuary floors are from Langwardine, in Herefordshire, the dressings of stone from Somerset, and the pillars of Purbeck marble.

A tablet in the porch, consecrated on July 29, 1923, by the Bishop of Crediton, bears the following inscription :—

> In Loving Memory of
> Hudson Grosett Heaven,
> Priest, Lord of the Manor of Lundy,
> who died in 1916, having accomplished
> the dream of his life by erecting this
> Church to the Glory of God.

The church was completed in 1896 and consecrated on June 7, 1897, by Bishop Bickersteth of Exeter. The crossing from the mainland on this occasion was an unusually bad one, even for these turbulent waters, and the Bishop is credited with having wittily acknowledged his conversion to a

belief in purgatory by his experience of what it was necessary to go through in order to reach ' the kingdom of Heaven '—an appellation gained by the island during the eighty years' lordship of the Heaven family.

In the first days of June 1896, the sailing vessel *Kate*, owned by the contractors, Messrs. Britton & Pickett of Ilfracombe, left that port with a cargo of building materials for the church of Lundy. All was safely landed, but, hauling off in a heavy sea, the anchor dragged and the vessel went ashore and was dashed to pieces. Happily no lives were lost, but the contractors were involved in expenses estimated at several hundreds of pounds.

The Report of the Church Plate Committee of the Devonshire Association, printed in the *Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, vol. xlvii, 1915, is here given at length :—

Lundy Island.—An ancient parish to which, as far as I am aware, no institution is recorded since 1355, when Nicholas Comyn was collated, till 1886, when the Rev. H. G. Heaven, Lord of the Island, and its licensed Curate since 1864, was formally instituted as Vicar. The ancient Church of S. Helen, long a ruin, though occasional services had been held in it up to 1747, has been rebuilt, and a handsome set of altar vessels in the modern mediæval style provided.

The Chalice : has a broad band with engraved inscription in old English capitals : ' CALICEM SALUTARIS ACCIPIAM ET NOMEN DOMINI INVOCABO.'

Marks: E. B. & J. B. (E. & J. Barnard) and London date marks for 1860.

Paten: Engraved round the border: 'AGNUS DEI QUI TOLLIS PECCATA MUNDI DA NOBIS TUAM PACEM.' Marks as on Chalice but date letter for 1866.

The Flagon: has a pointed lid set with stones and an ornamental border set with amethysts. It is engraved with the words: 'SANCTUS, SANCTUS, SANCTUS.' Marks: Maker H. E. W. and London marks for 1895.

In reference to the report quoted it may be pointed out, in order to avoid error and misunderstanding, that, in actual fact, the church was not *re*-built, and also that Mr. Heaven was never formally instituted as vicar. He was, as has already been stated, licensed curate-in-charge in 1864 and granted the courtesy title of vicar in 1886. He was officially styled 'Minister-in-Charge.'

Mr. Heaven, as has been inferred, retired from his ministry in 1911, and in 1913 the Rev. William Swatridge was appointed curate-in-charge, a post which he held until he became rector of Moreleigh in 1916. Thenceforward the inhabitants had to content themselves with the services of a lay reader, Mr. F. Allday, and the occasional chance visits of clergymen, until June 5, 1922, when the Rev. H.H. Lane was formally licensed by the Bishop of Exeter himself as his private chaplain on Lundy. On August 9 following, Mr. Lane was duly instituted and inducted by the Bishop of Crediton.

More recently the spiritual needs of the islanders have been confided to the care of the vicar of Appledore, and Lundy is now considered as part of his parish.

It is an interesting fact, and one which might have led to unpleasant complications in less enlightened days, that when Mr. Heaven made over the church, together with 1800 square yards of ground around it, and the old burial-place, he omitted to secure any ' right of access ' thereto. The only ' right of way ' on the island is held by Trinity House *in its official capacity* and is confined to thirty yards of beach and certain paths leading to the North and South Lighthouses, the old lighthouse and the Battery. The Lord of the Manor has, therefore, the right to deny access to the church property, and it is only by the courtesy of the owner of the island or his tenant that even the rector himself can pass to and from his church. But this, again, though of passing interest, is a matter of no real importance.

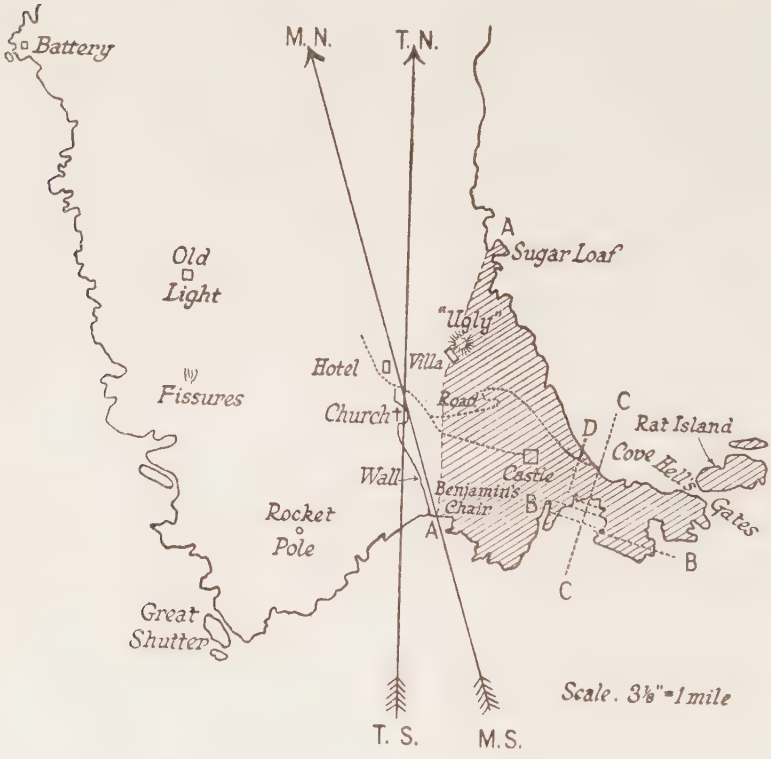
(For much of the foregoing information the compiler is indebted to Miss Beatrix F. Cresswell, whose comprehensive works on the churches of the West Country are well known.)

NOTE.—The upper part of the stained-glass window at the west end of the church was blown in during the height of the gale which raged in the early days of January 1925.

NATURAL FEATURES

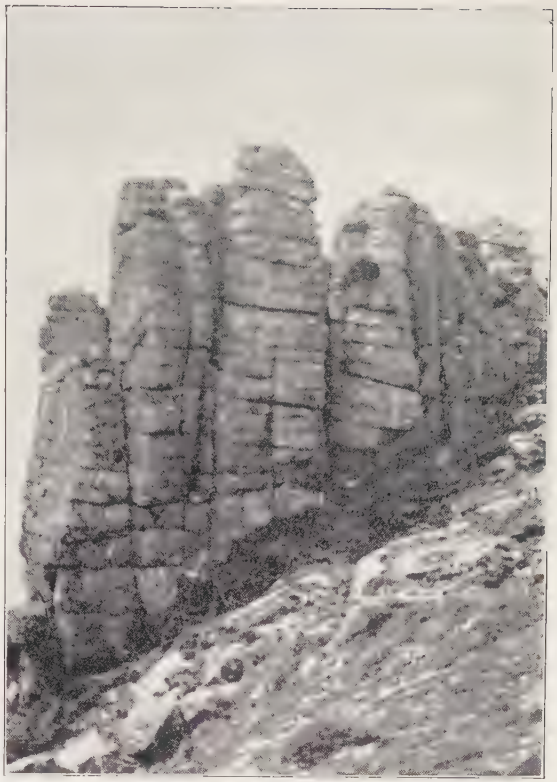
LUNDY lies at the mouth of the Bristol Channel, twelve miles from Hartland (the nearest mainland), fifteen from Clovelly, sixteen from Baggy Point, twenty from Instow (the port of Bideford), and twenty-four from Ilfracombe, its exact geographical position at the old lighthouse being latitude 51·9 48 N., longtitude 4·39 27 W. The island is of volcanic origin and geologically consists of granite, with a small area of slate at the south end, this latter being the oldest formation and corresponding to the Ilfracombe and Morte beds of the Devonian formation. Nodules or lenses of lime may be observed south-east of the landing cove and along the south beach of Rat Island below the half-tide mark, lying between the slate bedding planes as is the case on the mainland. An interesting feature is the presence of intrusive dykes of igneous rock of two classes, visible occurrences of which are marked B and C on the plan, the first named being the more recent. A further dyke, D, is a prominent factor in the appearance of the island at the south end. It stands up like a nearly vertical wall of whitish, fine-grained rock composed of small grains of quartz

and felspar. This rock turns a reddish colour, due to oxide of iron, and may be classed as a micro-granite or elvan.



Weathering but little, it has arrested the march of the erosion of the slates between the Castle and the South Lighthouse. Stringers, small veins, and bunches of white quartz containing iron sulphides and oxides are abundant and faint traces of copper may be seen. A number of narrow, nearly vertical,

THE CONSTABLE



THE CHEESES

'aplite' dykes cross the island in an east-west direction. (For the foregoing details the compiler is indebted to Franklin White, Esq., M.Inst.M. & M.)

The geology of Lundy was investigated by Sir Henry De la Beche (1839), a MS. map by whom is preserved in the office of the Geological Survey; by the Rev. D. Williams, who contributed a paper thereon to the *Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society* in 1846 (vol. ii, p. 68); by Etheridge, who communicated the results of his investigations to the same Journal in 1867, (vol. xxiii, p. 568 *et seq.*); and by Townsend M. Hall, by whom a paper was read before the Devonshire Association in 1871 and later printed in its Transactions. The last-named investigator gives the following list of minerals occurring on the island; beryl; felspar; fluor; garnet; mica; rock crystal; blende—sulphuret of zinc; towanite—copper pyrites; magnetite—magnetic iron ore; and quartz, amorphous and crystalline.

The island is rather over three miles long, with a mean breadth of half a mile. Its shape is very irregular and has been fancifully compared by Gosse to that of an oak-leaf, the narrow peninsula of Lametry and Rat Island forming the foot-stalk. Its area has been variously estimated at different times, but is now generally accepted as about 1050 acres, exclusive of the cliff slopes or 'sidings.'

The cliffs all round the island—loftier, bolder, and more precipitous on the west side—are pierced by numerous caves, a certain number of which are probably artificial. Three only call for special reference. 'Old Man's Cave,' or 'The Devil's Kitchen,' has its entrance on the beach of the Landing Cove below the South Lighthouse. To this day it may be followed for a considerable distance, but a large amount of *débris* has accumulated, making it very difficult to prove or disprove a tradition which holds that at one time a subterranean passage or stairway here connected Marisco Castle with the Landing Cove. It is also said that far from the entrance is a bed of the finest sand and that this was found to be to some extent accessible at the time when the jetty was being built, a quantity of it actually being used in the construction of that very inadequate breakwater.

The second cave of outstanding interest is the 'Seals' Cave,' almost immediately below 'Benjamin's Chair.' This consists of a lofty vault, twelve feet wide by sixty feet high, with a sandy bottom at its inner part, gradually rising and getting narrower and darker until there is scarcely room to pass, then suddenly opening into the spacious chamber in which the seals, many of which frequent the shores of Lundy, have their headquarters and 'nursery.' This main chamber opens, in its turn,

into smaller ones beyond. In favourable weather ' Seals' Cave ' may be visited by boat, but otherwise is accessible only by a difficult climb and with the assistance of a rope.

The third and, perhaps, the most interesting cave, if such it may be called, lies below the North Lighthouse. It consists of a tunnel, sixty feet in height and eight hundred feet in length, through which a boat can sail at high water, and its chief interest lies in the ' Virgin's Spring,' a strong flow of sweet water bubbling through its floor, which, however, can only be tasted at the lowest tides, it being at other times far below the surface of the sea.

All round the island the water is deep, with great irregularities in the sea-bed, except for two banks, one called the east and the other the north-west bank, which have a minimum depth of six fathoms and are probably protruding granite bosses. Within a mile along the shore soundings vary from ten to fifteen fathoms, deepening in some places to as much as twenty-eight fathoms. Admiralty charts give a mean rise and fall of twenty-seven feet, which increases to thirty-one feet on spring tides and drops to twenty feet on neaps. The Landing Cove, which boasts an unfinished quay commenced by Sir John Warren (1775–1781), lies below the Castle at the south-east corner of the island and is well sheltered from the south by Rat Island and the peninsula

of Lametry. Though a landing cannot be effected here when high winds blow from the east, it is only occasionally that passengers are unable to reach the beach, which is composed of the *débris* of slate mixed with granite pebbles. A scientific visitor in 1844, a certain Mr. Wollaston, gives evidence in his writings of not having made the most comfortable of landings, and his rather foolish exaggerations, which point to the probability of his never having made a second trip to the island, are sufficiently amusing to bear repetition. He describes Lundy as

> actually inaccessible except in the calmest weather; the few inhabitants it contains being frequently shut out of all communication with the mainland for months together, and nowhere is the good old proverb, *Incidit in Scyllam qui vult vitare Charybdim*, more strongly illustrated than it is here; for with the slightest breeze from the east the most distant chance of landing, on account of the numberless rocks, is destroyed, as while guarding against perils from the west you stand a chance of being overtaken by worse ones from the east. The danger attending the passage in a small boat, and the improbability of being able to land when you get there, are reasons of themselves quite sufficient to deter people from visiting a spot apparently so dreary.

Until a few years ago, when it became separated from the mainland, landings were effected during easterly winds at Pilot's Quay, a natural breakwater on the south-west side of the island, and at the

present day the Montague Steps, just north of the Great Shutter, are sometimes resorted to for that purpose.

Chanter remarks that 'until the introduction of steam-power rendered navigation less dependent on the state of the wind, the difficulty of getting to Lundy was only exceeded by the difficulty of getting away,' and records the amusing story of the incumbents of five or six parishes on the adjacent coast who, having combined for a day's pleasant excursion to the island, were detained there over two Sundays, to the dismay and consternation of their respective congregations.

Access to the summit of the island has been gained since 1819 by a good winding road made by Sir Aubrey de Vere Hunt, the then proprietor, to whom Trinity House agreed to pay an annual sum for the right to use it and towards the expense of keeping it in repair. Previous to that year access was less easy, as is shown by the following extract from the 'Journal' of 1787.

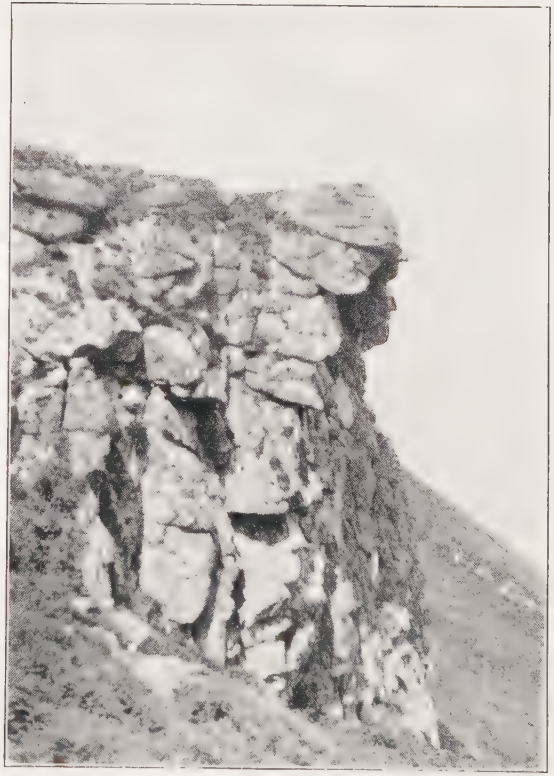
> You ascend into the Island by a narrow path just wide enough for a horse to get up, which leads to a platform where two roads meet; one conducts you to the Castle, the other to the house. At some distance from the landing-place are the remains of an ancient wall, built to guard the entrance.

A visitor in 1752 describes the path as 'so

narrow and steep that it was scarcely possible for a horse to ascend it.' Chanter adds that, ' where the two roads meet,' the traces of the ancient wall were in his day visible at each side of the way, and that it was said that ' there was a gate and heavy chains formerly fixed ' there. It is difficult to assign a definite situation to the platform and guarding wall referred to, as it is not known how much blasting was done during the construction of the present road and to what extent the configuration of the ground was changed thereby. The oldest account —that given in the ' Journal ' of 1787—seems to infer that the ' ancient wall ' was at some point *between* the Landing Cove and the platform, and if this is accepted as correct (and Chanter's statement, that the wall was where the two roads met, discarded) their respective positions may probably have been as shown in the accompanying sketch-map ; that is to say, the platform near the ' hairpin bend ' in the present road, and the gate no great distance above the fishermen's cottages—the outer wall of the ravine having been destroyed in 1819.

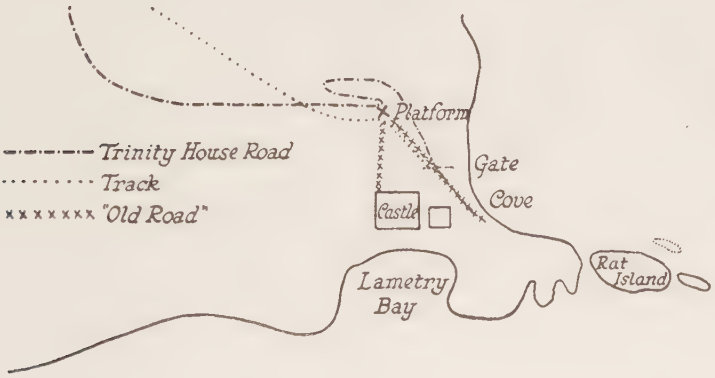
There can be but little doubt that the lower part of Millcombe was never used for purposes of ascent or descent. In the first place, access to it from the water must have been difficult even in the calmest weather, and impossible if there was a sea running or at any other time than high tide,

The Rocking Stone



The Knight Templar

owing to the massive boulders with which the beach is strewn. In the second place, the gradient is extremely steep, and it is very questionable whether it would have been practicable even to donkeys bearing anything but the lightest of loads ; the landing in the cove, on the other hand, was no doubt very



similar to what it is now—that is to say, it presented no great difficulties except when a high wind was blowing from certain quarters.

A narrow, rock-bound passage runs north and south on a level with, and about fifty yards north-east of, the easternmost wall of the present kitchen gardens attached to the Villa. Its length approaches fifty paces and the confining rock-faces are of considerable height. A certain amount of masonry is visible in those places where the top of the natural walls was uneven ; but its antiquity is probably little, if any, greater than that of the

remains of a number of unpoetic pigsties into which the ravine was at one time divided and on the ruins of which fragments of very prosaic slate roofing may yet be seen.

Some twenty feet below the southern extremity of this passage there is also a ' platform ' of considerable extent, six feet below which again is a second platform, the latter being confined by a roughly built, ivy-clad, perpendicular bank of stone. These level spaces are all that remains of an old mill, long since demolished, from which the little valley obtained its present name—Millcombe.

The top of the island is an undulating plateau rising well over 400 feet from the water's edge, abruptly on the west but at an easier angle on the east side, and reaching 475 feet on Beacon Hill—its highest point. Two valleys only offer some measure of shelter, namely, Millcombe, already referred to, and Gannets' Combe, which is also on the west side but further north.

A conical hill, surmounted by a flagstaff, overlooking the Landing Cove and now called the ' Ugly,' used to be known as ' Hangman's Hill,' and the probability is that in days gone by a gallows stood on the spot since usurped by the flagstaff. It earned its present inappropriate appellation in a peculiar manner which tends to show what strange effects trivialities are apt to have, and helps to illustrate the

difficulties which may arise in tracing the origin of names. It appears that, during the tenancy of the late Rev. H. G. Heaven, some little nieces of his, who were staying on the island, on being invited to visit the shelter erected below the flagstaff, replied, ' We've got a beautiful house of our own, we don't want to go to your ugly old place,' or words to that effect. The ' beautiful house ' was a small tent which could be seen in a photograph of the Villa hanging, until recently at any rate, in the dining-room of the Manor House Hotel. From that day the tent and the shelter were known respectively as the ' House Beautiful ' and the ' House Ugly,' and the name of the latter, like the shelter itself, still survives.

On the edge of the cliff-slope, at the eastern extremity of the ' Half-way Wall,' stands the ' Rocking Stone,' which rocks no more since (so it is said) some vandal tripper levered it, with the aid of a crowbar, from its original position. It is a flat-sided block of granite, about fifteen feet wide and eight feet high, and until 1860 or later could be rocked easily by the hand, as Mr. Heaven informed Gosse he had often proved. Chanter attributes its present immobility to it having slipped out of its equilibrium owing to the action of the weather having worn away the point on which it rested. A little farther on a view may be obtained of the ' Knight Templar,'

a really wonderful granite mass which, from certain angles, bears a remarkable resemblance to a casqued head.

Further north, not far short of Gannets' Combe, are 'Brazen Ward' and the 'Mousehole and Trap,' a rock pierced by a circular hole through which it is possible to pass, below which two other rocks, leaning one against the other, bear some resemblance to an old-fashioned mouse-trap. Below these again, close to 'Frenchmen's Landing,' is a considerable cave with a perfectly semicircular opening framed in luxuriant masses of fern. Though none too easy of access, this cave is well worth the scramble which a visit to it entails.

A large overhanging rock on the cliff-side south of Gannets' Combe is called the 'Slipper.' From the land side it bears no little resemblance to a dancing-pump complete with bow, while from the sea it has all the appearance of a gargantuan gargoyle.

Gannets' Rock rises from the sea off the northern arm of Gannets' Combe (in which it was originally intended to build the Villa) and is accessible from the island at low tide, though none but the most expert should attempt the difficult climb involved. This striking rock has figured somewhat largely in the history of Lundy and further reference to it will be found hereafter.

The 'Constable' rears its finger-like bulk,

The Slipper

The Mousehole

' keeping true centinel,' on the slope of the north cliff not far east of the lighthouse. It is a very nasty climb (was long said, indeed, to be impossible) and not recommended. Legend has it that a certain Cornish giant once came to Lundy, drove out all the snakes and other reptiles, and for so doing was turned into this monstrous pillar of granite—a poor return for so kindly an action. Another explanation of the absence of these unpleasant creatures from the island is that S. Patrick once stopped here on his way to Ireland. Near the top of the slope, to which puffins and razorbills resort in their thousands during the breeding season, are the remains of the old two-roomed watch-house now called ' John o' Groat's House.'

The tides round the island run with the strength and speed of a great river in flood, and the ' race ' is very noticeable in the neighbourhood of the ' Hen and Chickens,' a group of rocks off the north-west point, as it is also off Rat Island. For this reason it is unsafe to leave the cove in a rowing-boat unless in the company of some qualified person, and to make the circuit of the island is impossible except to those intimately acquainted with the tides and currents.

The west side of the island is far more wild and broken and the cliffs far more precipitous than on the east. The beach is strewn with great

masses of fractured granite, while deep cracks and frowning headlands, many of them dignified by the possession of traditional names, are numerous. ' The Devil's Slide,' a 400-feet ' face ' down which his Satanic Majesty is credited with ' shuting ' into the cool waters below, is remarkable, and ' St. James's Rock,' a little farther south, always proves attractive to the sure-footed. On the top of the latter lies a peculiar prominent boulder known as ' St. James's Stone '—a name which of late years has been erroneously applied to a millstone which lies on the cliff-edge near by.

Farther south is ' Jenny's Cove,' a bay so called from a vessel of that name having struck here, laden with gold-dust in leather bags, and ivory. On the southern side of the cove rises the ' Devil's Chimney,' a towering granite stack, much resorted to by guillemots in the breeding season, which has hitherto defied all efforts to scale it, and a little further south is the ' Needle.' Near the western end of the half-way wall may be found some granite pinnacles with a strangely rounded aspect locally designated the ' Cheeses.' To quote Chanter :

> In their general contour they somewhat resemble basaltic columns, standing erect, with a series of segments resting one on another to a varying but considerable height, the edges of these segments at the point of junction being worn and rounded away, and not badly described as representing a pile of cheeses.

Farther south still is the 'Earthquake,' of the clefts and fissures of which strange and gruesome tales are told. We cannot do better than quote in full the description of this phenomenon given by Townsend M. Hall in his Paper before the Devonshire Association in 1871:

Not the least among the very remarkable features of Lundy is a great slip or dislocation of the rocks running along the western side of the Island, and evidently due to some vast and deep-seated movement of the earth's crust in bygone ages. Similar cracks, though on a very much smaller scale, have been observed by me at Dazard Point, along the Cornish coast between Bude and Tintagel, as well as in the cliffs of Rockham Bay, south of Bull Point; in each case the rocks being fractured at right angles to their line of strike, and in positions which show that they must not be attributed to the effects of any ordinary landslip. I was informed by the Rev. Hudson Heaven that the fissure dividing the rocks at Lundy is traditionally said to have been caused by an earthquake which took place at the same time as the earthquake at Lisbon—November 1, 1755—when, according to Humboldt's computation, a portion of the earth's surface four times greater than that of Europe was simultaneously shaken.[1]

There is scarcely an instance in which it can be found (even after the most careful investigation) that a local tradition is totally devoid of foundation. But in this case it may fairly be questioned whether it is possible that any severe earthquakes, capable of causing fissures of such

[1] *Cosmos*, vol. i, p. 206. The hot wells at Bristol were coloured red and rendered unfit for use for some months afterwards. (*Bakewell's Geology*, 3rd ed., p. 332.)

magnitude, can have taken place in the West of England during the last eight centuries ; since analogous examples would lead us to believe that it must also have inevitably destroyed, or at least shattered, every building within a considerable radius.

When we remember the numerous fine specimens of Norman and Early English architecture in North Devon and Cornwall—churches with their arches perfect and their towers without a trace of rent—it is difficult to conceive that a convulsion of nature could have so occurred as to leave *their* masonry intact, whilst, at the same time, it exercised sufficient power to tear asunder the solid rocks from their lowest depths.

That the great earthquake of Lisbon extended to Devonshire is a fact beyond all doubt, and, if it may be allowed to hazard the conjecture, I should say that the fissures at Lundy might be attributed to some still greater disturbance in prehistoric times, and that the subsequent earthquake of 1755 caused a further displacement of the rock masses already loosened and ready to fall ; thus affording a not unreasonable ground on which to establish the tradition of the place.

The dislocation of the strata extends in a more or less degree for a distance of nearly three miles, commencing on the southern coast and stretching along in a northerly direction at a short distance from the edge of the cliffs. The place where its effects, if not most strongly marked, are at least most strikingly observable, is at a point just north of the boundary wall which divides the Island. Here there are two distinct lines of deep fissures, parallel to each other, and, as far as I could judge, about seventy or eighty feet apart, the intervening mass of granite being also split up by many other minor fissures, and depressed to the extent of from fifteen to twenty feet. Several of the

cracks near this spot are sufficiently wide to allow of a person creeping through them, and by descending the natural steps formed by the joints in the granite it is possible to penetrate beneath some of the larger blocks which, meeting with some obstacle, have been arrested in their descent, and to see, in the still greater depths beneath the earth, the continuation of those effects which have been left so clearly expressed upon its surface.

The larger clefts vary from ten to twenty feet in width and from twenty to eighty in depth, but others, too narrow to plumb, are certainly much deeper and popularly supposed to reach even down to the level of the sea four hundred feet below. Chanter states that ' some curious minerals have been found in these clefts ; among others some large amethysts, so called, but probably fluor-spar.'

A short distance south of this spot is Punch-bowl Valley, in which the stone described on a previous page formerly lay, and farther south still another natural feature of considerable interest, the ' Devil's Limekiln,' may be found. Gosse's description of this cavity, which is over 370 feet in depth, is as follows :

Close to the south-west corner of the Island we came rather suddenly upon the first object of our curiosity. In the midst of the heath-covered slope yawned a terrific chasm, into which it made us shudder to look. Its form is irregularly square at the top, where it is about 250 feet wide. The sides in some parts are quite perpendicular, but gradually approach each other at the bottom, so as to resemble

a funnel. The distant bottom of this hole was strewn with large blocks of alabaster, some of them twenty feet high.

Among these there is at one side a narrow door-like opening which leads by a natural tunnel to the beach at the foot of the cliffs. This affords the only means of access into the chasm, and is, from the precipitous character of the coast, available only with a boat, and in calm weather ; for when there is any swell the sea dashes furiously into the tunnel. One part of the margin of the chasm forms a slender ridge, like a wall, dividing it from a very steep declivity. Along this precarious path you can scramble on hands and knees to gain a better view of the recesses of the abyss.

At the present day quite a number of tunnels connect the ' Limekiln ' with the sea, and the accumulation of wreckage at the bottom of this vast, crater-like hole (and, indeed, in many of the larger caves) bears eloquent testimony to the toll taken of vessels during bad weather. Masts, spars, booms, and great baulks of timber lie in hopeless and inextricable confusion, and if only a small part of them could be salved would more than make up for the lack of wood growing on the island.

Immediately outside the ' Devil's Limekiln ' rises the ' Great Shutter,' immortalised by Charles Kingsley in ' Westward Ho ! ' as the spot where the galleon so long pursued by Sir Amyas Leigh was wrecked and sank to the bottom with all hands. The name of this striking rock is said to have originated in a belief of the inhabitants that, if inverted, it would exactly fit the ' Devil's Limekiln.'

Near here His Majesty's ill-fated first-class battleship *Montague* met with an untimely end. The *Montague*, of between 12,000 and 13,000 tons displacement, with a speed of nineteen knots, and mounting sixteen guns, was launched in 1901. While taking part in manœuvres she struck, just north of the Great Shutter, during thick weather, in the early hours of May 30, 1906, with the total loss of the ship, but, happily, of no lives. Her barbettes are still visible at low water from the path which leads down the cliff to within a few yards of her remains, and as late as 1922 salvage boats were continuing operations at intervals.

POPULATION, CULTIVATION, PRODUCTIONS AND CLIMATE.

For even the approximate population of Lundy in early times no reliable data are available. The number of human bones disinterred from time to time by the plough and other means may point to a considerable prehistoric population, and there are indications that when the numerous buildings of a military character, remains of which occur so freely, were first erected the number of persons inhabiting the island was considerably in excess of what it is at the present time. Chanter states that little more than half a century ago there were ' traces of no less than seven or eight groups of cottages or villages, some of which have traditional names attached to them, but no records remain as to when they were abandoned and fell into ruin.' At the present day not only have all traces of these seven or eight villages been entirely obliterated, but, as far as can be ascertained, even their traditional names are lost, with the possible exception of the ' Turkish Village,' which is said to have been situated just north of the field containing S. Helen's Well.

A letter from the Honourable Richard Fiennes

The Landing Cove

to Sir Thomas Fairfax, dated February 24, 1647, includes a list of the names of twenty-one men 'which I have found upon the island,' and during the subsequent ownership of Lord Saye and Sele persons living on Lundy were estimated to number more than a hundred, a figure also given by one John Sharp, who had lived on the island for fifty years, at the end of the seventeenth century. The journal of a visitor to Lundy in 1752, a friend of Thomas Benson, the lessee at that time, indicates that a considerable number of convicts were then lodged 'in the old fort,' but there appear to have been very few other inhabitants, the same writer finding 'the houses miserably bad, one on each side the platform, that on the right inhabited by Mr. Benson and his friends, the other by servants.' According to Grose, there were only seven houses on the island in 1794, sheltering a total of twenty-three inhabitants.

It is said that during the working of the quarries (from which was taken much of the material used in the construction of the Victoria Embankment and the Charing Cross Hotel) by the Lundy Granite Company, over two hundred workmen were resident on the island, in addition to the staff, but the census of 1871 gave a return of only 144 persons, crowded, by some miraculous means, into ten cottages. From that time the population steadily decreased for many years, and at the time of writing only about

forty people, including the officials of Trinity House and Lloyd's Signal Station, are resident on the island.

Lundy is by no means devoid of fresh water, which is soft and very pure. Grose writes :

> In the South division are S. Helen's, S. John's, and Parson's Wells, from the two first of which flow rivulets discharging themselves down two valleys on the east side of the Island. In the middle division there is a spring called Golden Well, and two rivulets towards the north end of this division, one discharging on the east side and the other on the west, down Punch-bowl Valley.

Unless the names have by some means become interchanged since his day, Grose's description is somewhat confused and confusing. Golden Well is situated about a hundred yards south-east of the church, and probably owes its name to the colour of the sediment found therein. S. Helen's Well, according to present-day nomenclature, is near the centre of the field immediately east of the Rocket House ; S. John's Well is close to the road, but some feet below its level, about 200 yards above the ' Bungalow ' ; Parson's Well, a short distance south of the burial-ground, is dry and covered with a slab of stone to prevent accidents to sheep and cattle ; the Punch-bowl stream, which rises in a swampy marsh known as Pondsbury, at the west side of which may be seen the remains of a dam of some size, is correctly described, and the ' other ' rivulet runs down the cliff below Quarter-Wall Cottages.

In addition, several wells have been sunk in the immediate vicinity and just north of the old lighthouse ; a fair amount of water runs down the west cliff at a point nearly opposite Gannets' Combe and at another not far south of the old lighthouse ; and a strong spring exists low down in Gannets' Combe itself. A suggestion that all these springs have their source on Dartmoor and pass under the sea before appearing on Lundy is not deemed worthy of consideration.

The island is divided by transverse walls into four parts, known as the North Farm (which includes the 'Widow's Tenement'), Middle Park, Pondsbury, and the South Farm, the last-named being again subdivided into a number of fields.

The first glimpse vouchsafed to us of the productive capabilities of Lundy is contained in a deed the original of which is preserved amongst the muniments of the city of Exeter. It unfortunately bears no date, but was doubtless drawn up during the first quarter of the thirteenth century, and is of sufficient interest to quote in full.

William de Mariscis, by assent of Lucy, his wife,
and
Jordan de Mariscis, his son and heir,
to
Baldewin Giffard, and his heirs.

Grant of 'Hunwedreswalles,' with its appurtenances, with the vivary, and as the bounds towards the south are

perambulated by view of my men, and ' Sageswalles,' with its appurtenances, To hold of him and his heirs by the service of finding three men to be in my Isle of Lundi, one to wit *ad ferrum*, and two *ad purpunctos et ad capellos ferreos* ; and when I put my men in the said Island, he is to put his also ; when I remove mine he shall remove one part of his. The said Baldewin and his heirs are to be in that land at my summons when it shall be needful, unless they be hindered by royal service. They shall have in the common pasture, two mares, thirty beasts, and one hundred sheep, and all their issue under one year old. He also grants the said Baldewin one hundred rabbits, to be taken ' de Swerthechove,' and if Swerthechove will not suffice to produce one hundred, he is to take them *in duabus proximis chovis*, and to take them by view of the said William's bailiff ; and if any year he be not fully paid, it is to be made up to him the next year. And if any of the said Baldewin's men leave the Island by licence of my bailiff, so that no crime be charged to them, the said Baldewin shall not be answerable for them ; and if any of his men be charged, or taken in robbery, the said Baldewin may keep them in guard, or deliver them to his bailiff of Lundi, until they be judged according to law, in the Court of the Island.

In addition there were granted to the said Baldewin and his heirs easements of the land *in fortelleses* in ways, paths, ponds, mills, fuel and all necessaries, by view of Sir William's bailiff.

In an Inquisition or Inventory of Produce made in 1274, when Lundy was escheated to the Crown, the jury reported that :

There may be there twenty acres of arable land which may be sown with barley or oats ; each acre is worth per

annum twopence, whether tilled or not. There are also five acres of meadows, worth threepence an acre. Also, pasture for eight oxen and twenty cows, with their offspring, for two years. Also, that in all the pastures can bear sixty-eight head of cattle, also four mares and one stallion, with their offspring for two years, to wit, thirteen head. There is also there pasture for 300 wethers and 200 ewes, with their offspring for two years, to wit, pasture for 900 sheep. Also, the taking of rabbits is estimated at 2,000, and the estimate is at five shillings and sixpence each hundred skins, because the flesh is not sold ; also, the rock of gannets [*petra ganetorum*] is worth five shillings ; also other birds, but they are not sold. There is also one eyrie of butcher falcons [*Una ayeria falconum Lanerium*—no doubt Peregrines] which have sometimes three young ones, sometimes four, sometimes more, and sometimes less. This eyrie the jury knew not how to estimate, for they build their nests in a place in which they cannot be taken.

On the back of this Inquisition it is recorded that :

The jurors being asked by him who made the Extent what the turf, gorse, brushwood, and the fresh water were worth to the King's benefit, answered that none of them could take value, as no man would buy them ; but the auditing clerk perceives that all these things may be considered of such value to the keepers of the Island as to lessen their wages to the extent of five shillings ; and the fowls besides, although they cannot be sold, nor are the keepers willing to eat them, yet he estimated them at forty pence. Of quarries, minerals or timber, none was found there. As for the flesh of the rabbits, what it is worth to the keepers of the Island he leaves to the discretion of the King's Counsel to estimate. Be it mentioned, however, that for all

these matters the keepers of the Island have been wont to take nothing less in wages.

In spite of no quarries having been found in 1274, the value of Lundy granite must have been realised not very much later, for, Chanter says, many of the old churches and houses along the north coasts of Devon and Cornwall are built largely of stone from the island.

In another Inquisition, taken in 1321, the jury reported :

There are in demesne 40 acres of arable land worth yearly 10s. ; also 200 acres of pasture land worth 16s. 8d. per annum ; also three acres of meadow worth 2s. 6d. ; also waste land, by estimation 200 acres, worth yearly 8s. 4d., so little because all the tenants in the Island have common on it. There is also a rabbit warren worth in ordinary years 100s. but this year destroyed in great part by the men of John de Wyllyngton and the Scots. Also a certain rock, called the Gannets' Stone, with two places near it where the Gannets settle and breed, worth in ordinary years 66s. 8d. but this year destroyed in part by the Scots. Also eight tenants who hold their land and tenements by a certain charter of Herbert de Mareis, granted to them for the term of their lives, who pay 15s. yearly. Also one tenant who should keep the said Gannets during the whole season of their breeding [*aereacionis*] thereon, for which service he will be quit of his rent of 2s. Also pleas and perquisites of courts worth yearly four shillings.

About four years later, when Edward II., to escape from his rebellious barons, had decided to flee to

Lundy, yet a third Inventory was taken, which refers, in Stow's translation, to :

> The Isle of Lundy, which is in the mouth of the river Severn, two miles in length every way, abounding with pasture grounds and oats, very pleasant. It bringeth forth Conies very plentifully, it hath Pigeons, and other foules, which Alexander Necham calls Ganimedes Birdes, having great nestes. Also it ministreth to the inhabitants fresh springing waters flowing out of fountains, although it be on everie side environed with the salt sea ; it hath onlie one entrance into it, in the which two men together can scarce go in front. On all the other parts there is an high hanging over of a great rocke, which letteth the passage to this Island as we have said. It aboundeth altogether with victualles, and is verie full of wines, oile, hony, corne, bragget, salt fish, flesh, and sea or earth coales.

The last sentence quoted has led to not a little controversy. In the original description as given by Sir Thomas de la More the passage runs thus : '*Ad hanc Insulam victualibus universaliter abundantem, tamen abundante vino oleo melle frumento brasio carnibus et terresti carbone instuffatum*,' and there can be little doubt that the writer intended it to be understood (as also, in all probability, did his translator, Stow) that this plethora of luxuries was produced, not from the soil of the island, but from the numerous caves and store-rooms in which it had been deposited—probably as pirated goods.

Thomas Westcote, about 1620, says of Lundy:

That it hath been tilled in former times the furrows testify yet plainly, but what commodities came thereof is not known, neither will any man try again; there is so little hope of profit. The most profit that is now made of it is by hogs, conies, and sea-fowl. Timber and wood it hath none, only a few stunted elders which are haunted with such a multitude of stares that you can hardly come to them for the dunging of the birds.

Risdon, writing about ten years later, says:

Horses, kine, sheep, swine and goats it affordeth, with stores of conies, but their chief commodity is fowl, whereof there is great abundance. I have even seen their eggs so thick on the ground that unless you look to your way they must needs have been troden on.

Camden about the same time (1630) states:

There are there 500 acres of good land, but the best part, for want of cultivation, is covered with furze and heath, and the whole land swarms with rabbits and black rats. Sea-fowl resort to it in summer, and in winter starlings and woodcocks. The rock is moorstone, covered with a soil formed from rotten vegetable matter—thickest at the south end.

This writer also refers to the furrows all over the island as evidence of previous cultivation.

From the manuscript of 1752 we learn that Thomas Benson was at that time paying a yearly rental of £60 for Lundy to the Lords Carteret and Gower. This letter also records that:

Wild-fowl were exceeding plentiful, and a vast number of rabbits. The island was overgrown with ferns and heath

which made it impossible to go to the extreme of the Island. Had it not been for the supply of rabbits and young seagulls our table would have been but poorly furnished, rats being so plenty that they destroyed every night what was left of our repast by day. Lobsters were tolerably plenty and some other fish we caught. The deer and goats were very wild and difficult to get at.

We learn later that ' Sir John B. Warren expended above £6,000 in building and dividing the lands. The wall across the island, dividing the improved from the unimproved parts, was begun by Mr. Benson in 1752, and finished by Sir John, and about 160 acres enclosed with fences.' The stock on the island at that time was two bulls, thirty bullocks, seven sheep, seven horses, thirty hogs, sixteen deer, and seven goats, and it is noted that ' the flesh of the hogs bred on the island cannot be eat ; the flesh is yellow and strong.'

In the course of Chancery proceedings in 1776 the Rev. Thomas Martyn, Professor of Botany at Cambridge University, gave an unusually full account of the island, which, however, to quote Chanter, ' must be taken with some reserve, as he appears to have gone there as an interested witness purposely to depreciate its value.' After detailing the extent and acreage, he deposes

that about 500 acres thereof, situate at the south end, were covered with a coarse grass, and might feed lean

Welsh cattle ; but that all the rest of the island was, in his judgment, incorrigibly barren, and bore little else to cover the rock but heath and moss ; and that where there was any soil the staple was mostly very shallow and incapable, without very great expense, of any considerable improvement ; and that the Island was so very high, and so subject to winds, that it would be difficult to grow corn to much advantage ; and that it was so overrun with rats and rabbits that any crops that might be produced thereoff would, as he apprehended, be infallibly devoured by them ; and that he was persuaded no trees had ever grown upon the said Island, nor could be forced to grow thereon to any purpose, without great care, expense and difficulty ; and that the said John Borlase Warren having caused many trees to be planted in the said Island in the spring of the year 1775, the deponent found that the same were all withered and dead ; and that in his judgment the greatest advantage which could be made of the said Island would be by agisting of cattle, but that there would be great drawbacks upon that advantage from the great expense which would necessarily attend upon carrying the cattle to and from the nearest land, which is about three leagues ; and that the said Island is distant eight leagues from Ilfracombe, which is the most certain port and place where proper vessels can be procured to carry passengers, cattle, or goods ; and that there was but one dwelling-house and remains of an old castle on the said Island, the said dwelling-house being small, and in a very ruinous state and condition ; and that he, the said Thomas Martyn, was better able to depose with respect to the soil of the said Island, as he had made natural history and agriculture the chief study of his life.

From the very valuable 'Journal' of 1787, in July of which year a visit of inspection was paid by

the owner, Mr. John Cleveland, we learn that the island was at that time divided into three or four farms, let to several tenants who were continually quarrelling with each other. Much time was occupied by Mr. Cleveland in hearing and adjudging complaints during his visit, and a constable for the island was sworn in; but none the less the inspection of the property was very thoroughly carried out.

It was found that the many kinds of game introduced by Sir John Warren had all been destroyed by birds of prey, and that the violent winds had killed every tree which he had had planted. The ground was estimated to be capable of supporting 400 sheep, and cattle in proportion, but the stock at that time was not so great. Many deer and goats were seen browsing at the northern end, which, on being disturbed, ran into cleaves where the ferns were so high that they soon became invisible. A doe was shot, but 'she proved but thin meat.' The north part was found to be incapable of cultivation, owing to Benson having set fire to the heath and ferns while he was in possession, so that the earth continued burning for some days till it came to the bare rock, and nothing vegetable now grew on it. In the low land were a few willows, about as high as brushwood, to which the woodcocks resorted in the beginning of their flight. About 160 acres, enclosed

in fields of seven, eight, and ten acres each and producing wheat, barley, and oats, were in cultivation, but it was observed that the ground was capable of great improvement. A natural produce was 'a small three-leaved grass, like Dutch clover,' and clover and eaver grass grew very well, but the inhabitants sowed only small crops.

About the middle of the Island the land is low in comparison with the rest, and the soil deeper ; and where there is this appearance, you see it enclosed with large stones fixed endways in the earth. At the end of this low land are the remains of a dam or pond, which seems to have contained a large body of water. Springs abound. The water is very soft, clear, and pleasant to the taste.

A notice by Britton in 1802 states :

400 acres are now cultivated—300 arable and the rest pasture ; 400 sheep and 80 cattle feed there, with 12 deer, and a quantity of pigs and poultry. Wheat the principal produce ; potatoes and turnips good.

During the war with France the whole of 'Middle Park' was put under grain and is said to have been the largest single field ever put wholly to this use in the British Isles.

For many years, from at any rate early in the seventeenth century, the netting of sea-birds was the principal industry of the island, and no better account of the method employed can be given than that found in the 'Journal' of 1787.

After dinner we walked to view the rocks on the western part of the Island and saw vast quantities of wild fowl, and the method of taking them in nets which the inhabitants use for the advantage of their feathers. The nets are just the same as those commonly used for taking rabbits on warrens. They are fixed on the rocks, and sometimes on the ground, on sticks, in the breeding places. Every morning and evening the natives watch their nets and take out the birds that are entangled. They catch in a good season 1700 or 1800 dozen, and make one shilling per pound of their feathers. People from the neighbouring coasts are hired to pluck them at twopence a dozen, and pluck about four dozen a day. The birds usually taken are muirrs, of which there are two sorts—parrots and a small kind of gull. The parrots are about the size of a teal, with crooked and bright-coloured bills, large heads, and beautiful plumage. These birds, it appears, annually forsake the Island when the young birds can fly, and are not seen again till the time returns for depositing their eggs. The natives collect these eggs and send them to the Bristol Sugar refineries. The muirrs are the most profitable, twelve of them producing one pound of feathers. After being plucked, they are skinned; these skins are boiled in a furnace for the oil they yield, which is used instead of candles, and the flesh is given to the hogs, who feed on it voraciously. At the north part we found the birds so tame that we might shoot a dozen at a shot. The rocks on which they lay their eggs are wonderfully romantic and appear as if the stones were piled on each other by art, looking like the ruins of some old fortification. There is one rock 200 feet high, disjointed from the Island, where innumerable quantities of birds lay their eggs. The inhabitants fix their nets on this rock and catch vast quantities as they fly backwards and forwards from the sea to their young. Their method of conveying them when

taken is by means of a rope fastened at each end to the Island and rock, on which hangs a basket to a pulley, which is drawn occasionally to and fro with the birds. The people run great hazards in taking them out of their nests and sometimes lose their lives.

The ' muirrs, of which there were two sorts,' were guillemots and razorbills ; the ' parrots and a small kind of gull ' were puffins and kittiwakes respectively.

A tenant farmer, Mr. Hole, whose dead body was found on the beach in 1870, is believed to have lost his life while returning to the cliff-top with a basket of eggs. In 1816, 379 pounds of feathers were plucked by women, twenty-four puffins yielding one pound of feathers ; but after the purchase of the island by Mr. Heaven neither eggs nor feathers were taken as a source of revenue, though a certain amount of unauthorised collection of the former continued until recent years. In the fourth edition of 'Yarrell's British Birds,' completed in 1885, Howard Saunders gives the following account of the yearly massacre of kittiwakes for the sake of their wings, for which there was a great demand to decorate ladies' hats.

At Clovelly, opposite Lundy Island, there was a regular staff for preparing the plumes ; and fishing smacks, with extra boats and crews, used to commence their work of destruction at Lundy Island by daybreak on the 1st of August (when the close time under the Sea Birds Preservation

Act expired), continuing this proceeding for upwards of a fortnight. In many cases the wings were torn off the wounded birds before they were dead, the mangled victims being tossed back into the water. . . . On one day 700 birds were sent back to Clovelly, on another 500, and so on ; and, allowing for starved nestlings, it is well within the mark to say that at least 9000 of these inoffensive birds were destroyed during the fortnight.

The amount of enclosed, drained, and cultivated land in 1871 was about 270 acres, of which 200 were in permanent pasture and the remainder in barley, oats, potatoes, mangolds, turnips, rye, and flax. These all did well, particularly oats and swedes, the former yielding seventy bushels to the acre and straw more than six feet in height, and eight to twelve roots of the latter not infrequently turning the scale at a hundredweight. The stock consisted of about 600 sheep and seventy head of cattle, almost all bred on the island, but was under strength owing to the Lundy Granite Company having taken over the farming during their tenancy and allowed it to deteriorate. It was considered that the ground was capable of carrying 1000 sheep and 100 horned stock, beside horses, etc. There was also a considerable stock of pigs and poultry—turkeys, geese, ducks, and fowls.

At the present day grain of various kinds, roots, and cabbages are still grown ; some 600 sheep and 80 cattle roam the island, and pigs and poultry are

reared, the latter in large numbers. There are no goats, and the last mention of deer on Lundy is that found in Britton's notice of 1802. Rabbits must have decreased in a very remarkable manner, if early chroniclers are to be believed, though a considerable number are still to be found, and the old English black rat which was once 'so plenty' has been almost superseded by the Norwegian species. Attempts to introduce game continue to prove unsuccessful. Grouse, partridges, and pheasants have all been tried at different times, only to be exterminated—doubtless by the gulls—though it is true that some of the last named brought over by the present tenant in 1921 still survive and have bred.

Some portions of the island's surface have at times been swept bare by the action of fire and the violence of winds, but a prevalent belief that there is no soil on Lundy is incorrect. A destructive fire at the north end started by Benson has already been mentioned. Some hundred years later another fire, said to have been started by excursionists, burned for about six weeks, and the whole of the peat composing the soil at the north end was completely consumed over a large area, leaving the bare rock exposed. The effects of this are still plainly visible. The sloping declivities favoured as a breeding haunt by the puffins at the north end are covered with a

deep layer consisting for the most part of guano, but no attempt seems ever to have been made to turn it to account.

Lobsters and crabs are caught in large numbers, as well as a few crawfish, but an attempt to form an oyster-bed some sixty years ago was a failure. The angler, as distinct from the professional fisherman, is sorely handicapped by the strength of tides and races, but large conger, pollack, bream, and skate may be taken, as well as bass, grey mullet, and mackerel, in their season.

The climate of the island is peculiar. Prevalent winds being from the west, the east side is generally sheltered from the most violent gales. Snow falls but seldom and ice is a rarity even in the most exposed situations. The rainfall is somewhat less than that registered on the adjoining coasts, but the prevalence of mists renders the amount of moisture on the island very high. The equable nature of the climate is proved by thermometrical readings which show that the temperature in summer averages from seven to ten degrees (Fahrenheit) less, and in winter the same amount more, than on the adjacent mainland. This is probably due to the island being exposed to the full influence of the Gulf Stream.

Singular phenomena are not infrequently seen. Sometimes rain-clouds, driving up on a south-westerly wind, will be observed on approaching

Lundy to divide and pass on either side, one part turning towards the Welsh coast, the other towards Dartmoor ; this is especially the case with thunderstorms. The vagaries of the mists so prevalent on the island are remarkable, sometimes only the lower portion being veiled, sometimes only the upper. It is not unusual to grope through a thick fog on the summit to perfectly clear atmosphere on the beach, while at other times exactly the opposite is the case. Warning of storms from the west is generally given by a heavy ground-sea, noticeable, as a rule, forty-eight hours in advance. The appearance of the island has for years been noted by fishermen and others on the mainland as indicative of what class of weather may be expected in the immediate future.

THE NORTH LIGHTHOUSE

THE LIGHTS OF LUNDY

SITUATED as it is at the entrance of the Bristol Channel, Lundy has always been, and must always be, a great menace to shipping. Many thousands of vessels pass yearly up and down the Channel, and though, in spite of the precipitous nature of the granite cliffs, outlying rocks are not numerous, the island has been responsible for the loss of many a life and many a valuable cargo. How the comparatively small boats of the ancients ever succeeded in contending with the powerful and treacherous tide-races which encircle Lundy must surely remain a matter for conjecture ; neither is there any reason to suppose that in their day the constant mists were less frequent, less sudden in appearance, or less impenetrable than they are now. To one of these mists was attributed the loss of H.M.S. *Montague* in 1906.

A bay on the west side, from which rises that imposing stack known as the ' Devil's Chimney,' acquired the name of Jenny's Cove owing to a vessel so named having sunk there. At one time, it is said, she lay in only a few fathoms, but later slipped off into deeper water. Her cargo consisted of ivory

and gold-dust in leathern bags. The ivory was recovered, or at any rate a great part of it; salt water must have rotted the leathern bags many a year ago, and the gold-dust seems never to have been salved and doubtless lies scattered over the floor of the bay to this day. The steamboat *Salada*, laden with brass rods, was wrecked, somewhat appropriately, off Brazen Ward (south of Gannets' Combe), and most of her cargo was salved by the *Zephyr*, the same boat that worked on H.M.S. *Montague*. An even more recent wreck, which involved a tragedy, helps to prove how easy it is for all traces of a boat to be mysteriously lost, and also, such is the speed and strength of the tide-races round Lundy, supports the probability that many a vessel which has disappeared in home waters and never been heard of again may have met her fate on this granite rock. This particular boat, carrying a crew of four, struck at night on the west side of the island and one man was drowned. The other three gained terra firma by climbing the mast, the upper end of which, owing to the list, rested against the cliff-side, and by superhuman exertions succeeded in reaching the top of the island (a difficult and dangerous feat even in daylight) and making their way to the North Lighthouse. Returning to the scene of the wreck in the company of the Coastguards with all possible speed, they discovered that, though only a very few hours

had elapsed, not one single stick or stave of the boat remained visible, neither has any been recognised from that day to this.

The great majority of the very numerous caves round the island are deep cracks which grow narrower as they run in. The floors are generally encumbered with large boulders and a very considerable rise in the beach is often noticeable. These facts combine to make the jambing or stranding of wreckage thrown into the caves probable, and the chances of any flotsam which has once entered one of these fissures ever getting out again are remote. As has been said elsewhere, the number of masts, spars, and baulks of timber which encumber the caves is phenomenal, and the difficulties entailed in clambering over them and consequent loss of time involved render the exploration of many impossible during the few hours when the tide is sufficiently low to permit of ingress and egress.

So great a toll did Lundy take of shipping that in 1786 the merchants of Bristol offered to build, equip, and maintain a lighthouse on the island entirely at their own expense. This fact is referred to in the 'Journal' of 1787, where we read of 'a walk to the chapel and to Beacon Hill to determine which was the highest spot for erecting a lighthouse, the merchants of Bristol having offered to build one at their own expense, if Mr. Cleveland was agreeable,

and had appointed to meet him that week on the island to fix on a proper spot.' Nothing, however, came of it until 1819, when Trinity House laid the foundations of what is now known as the 'Old Lighthouse,' on Beacon Hill, whence fires had long flashed messages to the mainland in times of trouble or cases of emergency. The spot chosen, almost the highest on the island, being 470 feet above sea-level, was close to the old burial-ground, which is now bounded for some distance by a Trinity House wall. The tower, of native granite, is ninety-nine feet in height, and the whole, together with two substantial cottages for the use of the lightkeepers, was erected at a cost of £36,000. It was ascended by way of 147 steps and fitted with a catoptric system of lights (*i.e.* reflecting mirrors were used for intensification—not lenses), which was later replaced by a dioptric apparatus at an additional cost of £6,000. This dioptric apparatus consisted of eight lenses round the lamp, a quadruple Argand burner, whose foci transmitted the light, whilst their outer parts, being ground in concentric grooves, projected the rays that fell on them on to the opposite foci. There were rows of prismatic lenses above and below, and the whole revolved in sixteen minutes, so that the light seemed at its greatest intensity every two minutes. Rather over half-way up the west side of the tower a projecting stone canopy may be observed.

Under this was hung a row of nine lamps which reflected a red light. The angle of the canopy served to obscure these lights from all vessels at sea at a greater distance than four miles from the island. As soon as they became visible it was known that the ship was running into danger, and her course was altered until sight of them was lost. It was found, however, that at a certain distance the red merged with the upper light and prevented its distinguishing revolution from being clearly observed. The lamps were therefore removed to a glass-fronted chamber at the foot of the tower.[1] As the upper part of the island was frequently shrouded in mist, it was found necessary to provide some additional warning to ships during thick weather, and a pair of eighteen-pounder guns were accordingly mounted on a wide concrete platform low down on the west cliffs. One of these guns, which are still *in situ* and bear the monogram of George IV., was fired every ten minutes, and the tale goes that, shortly after they were installed, the master of a vessel who, all unsuspecting, had approached Lundy in the mist and knew nothing of the innovation, made some uncomplimentary remarks to his mate about dirty weather

[1] Experience has shown the employment of coloured lights to be impracticable; lenses of this kind absorb many more rays than they transmit and the colours cannot be distinguished at any distance. For further information on this subject refer to the Treatise on Lighthouses in Weale's series.

in general and *thunderstorms* in particular—and promptly ran ashore under the very muzzles of the 'thundering' guns. The ruins may yet be seen of the two two-roomed cottages attached to the 'Battery,' one of which once housed a man and his wife and no fewer than eleven children.

In course of time the idea that the greater the height at which a light stood above sea-level the greater the effective range of visibility lost favour, and Trinity House commenced the erection of two new, up-to-date lighthouses, one at either extremity of the island. Both of these were completed in 1897 and thereafter the 'Old Lighthouse' was relegated to use as a 'day-mark' only, being entirely dismantled and the greater part of the machinery transferred to the new building at the south end. Fully equipped, the South Light cost £40,000. It stands at the south-east corner of the island, on the top of the promontory called Lamitor, and shows a flash every minute.[1] In thick weather a charge of four ounces of gun-cotton is fired every three minutes. The cost of the light on the north-west corner was £45,000. The lantern is of the more modern boat-shaped pattern and lies in a bath of quicksilver, so that, in spite of its enormous weight, a little girl can cause it to revolve with no more exertion than the pressure of a

[1] Since altered to a flash every half-minute, commencing January 26, 1925.

finger. Its usefulness is augmented by powerful horns employed in times of fog. Lundy roads are much frequented during stormy weather, and Mr. P. H. Gosse, the author of ' Land and Sea,' was told by an informant that he had known no fewer than 300 vessels in sight and 170 vessels of good size anchoring at one time in the roadstead. As many as a million vessels were estimated to have passed the island in 1870.

As early as 1857 Lundy was suggested as a suitable spot for the building of a harbour of refuge, and two years later a Royal Commission investigated the matter. The finding of the Commission was ' that a refuge harbour at the entrance of the Bristol Channel would confer a great benefit on trade and navigation, and that at Lundy Island is to be found a site in every respect well adapted for such a harbour, except the important one of expense, the depth of water and consequent cost being so great as to preclude the possibility of recommending it at present.'

From figures given in this report it is found that of 173 wrecks in the Bristol Channel in 1856–57, 97 occurred east and 76 west of the island, with the loss of 44 and 58 lives respectively, thus showing Lundy to be near the centre of the danger zone.

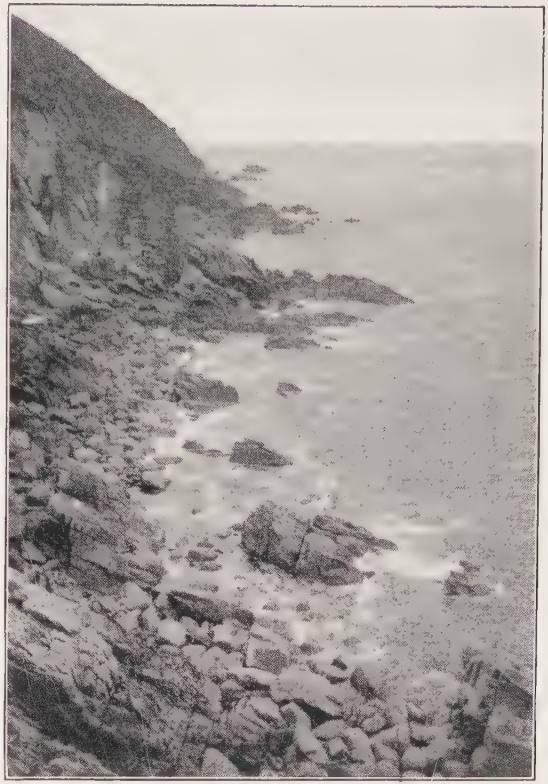
Three localities only for the proposed harbour were maintained before the Commission—Lundy,

Clovelly, and the Mumbles. In addition to the pre-eminent suitability of its situation, it was claimed for the first-named that the acquisition of land would be cheap and the necessary building materials easily obtained and plentiful. It was pointed out, on the other hand, that the tide-races were so strong as to make approach at times a matter of difficulty, that there was no place suitable for the beaching of a leaky vessel, that the island possessed none of those materials necessary for supplies or repairs, and that the prevalence of fogs was liable to render both the harbour and its guiding lights invisible. The point, however, which definitely decided the Commission against Lundy was the matter of expense, the conclusion of the report reading: 'The depth of water in which the breakwater must necessarily be placed is so great as to occasion a cost of construction not to be thought of, unless a field for convict labour is required.'

The plan submitted embodied the construction of two piers, one running out in an easterly direction from the Gull Rock and the other northwards from Rat Island, an opening of a quarter of a mile being left between the two extremities. A breakwater three-quarters of a mile long would thus have been formed enclosing an area of approximately 714 acres.

A few years later another suggestion was put forward, the proposed situation in this case being rather

The Old Lighthouse



Looking South from Battery

further north. This plan consisted of enclosing Gannets' Bay, but nothing was done in the matter.

Until comparatively recent years there was no regular communication with the shore for either passengers or mails (a system of fire signals from Beacon Hill had to be employed in times of emergency), and even now it is not altogether reliable. The first movement towards getting telegraphic communication with the mainland installed was in 1870, when merchants and others connected with the shipping trade of Cardiff and other ports in the Bristol Channel memorialised the Postmaster-General praying that this might be done. The memorial emphasised the great number of vessels which ran for shelter under the lee of Lundy during westerly gales, pointing out that they were sometimes delayed there for days, much anxiety and alarm being thus caused to owners and friends of the crew. Chanter states that 'in a leading article on the subject, the *Shipping Gazette* remarks that the establishment of telegraphic communication between Lundy Island and the mainland would immediately be followed by the establishment of a Signal Station for working the international code.' Nothing, however, appears to have been done until 1882 or 1883, when, as a speculation, a cable was laid between Hartland Point and the island by a private company for the purpose of signalling ships in connection

with Lloyd's Signal Station. This venture proved unprofitable, owing to frequent breakages near the rocky coast of Hartland and consequent excessive cost of repairs, and was finally abandoned four years later. In 1892 a cable was laid by the Post Office from the vicinity of Baggy Point, on the completion of which the islanders are said to have flashed across the message 'The kingdom of Heaven rejoiceth.' In June 1896 this cable parted about four miles out at sea from Croyde Sands, which caused some astonishment to the experts, for, when the line was being laid, it was considered that the mainland end, lying as it did on a bed of sand, would be safe, whereas the Lundy end, which descended from jagged rocks deep into the channel, would be liable to chafe owing to friction caused by the strong tides and powerful currents.

The cable has parted many times since, and it is suspected that in several instances it was deliberately cut after being fouled by the anchors of vessels sheltering in Lundy roads. On these occasions the heliograph and the flash-lamp have to be relied upon, and we have cause to remember an important message which was long delayed in 1922 owing to a succession of cloudy days and misty nights.

Wind and weather permitting, the mail is now delivered weekly by boat from Instow, which takes outgoing letters on its return journey. During the

Lamitor and Rat Island

summer months the latter may generally be got away more frequently through the courtesy of the officers of pleasure boats which pay numerous visits from Ilfracombe, Clovelly, and elsewhere.

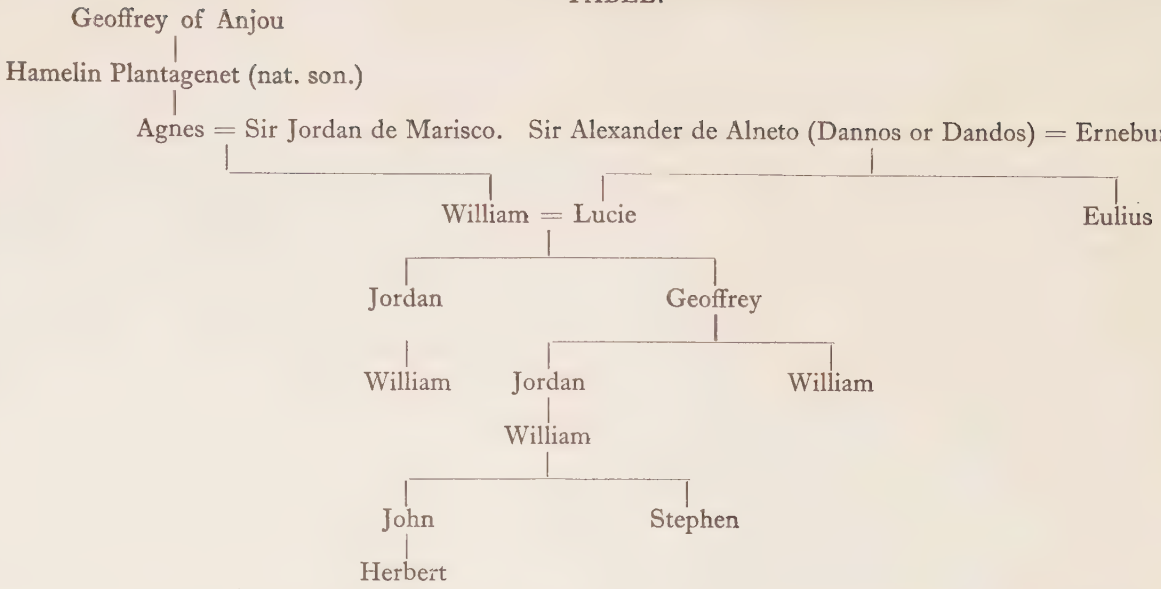
The erection of a Wireless Station is contemplated.

OWNERS OF LUNDY

*c.*1150–*c.*1170.	Sir Jordan de Marisco.	See Genealogical Table.
*c.*1170–1234.	Sir William de Marisco.	
1234.	Sir Jordan de Marisco.	
1234–1242.	Sir Geoffrey de Marisco.	
1242.	Lundy declared forfeit to the Crown.	
1245–1250.	Henri de Traci, Governor under the Crown.	
1250–1255.	Robert de Walerand, Governor under the Crown.	
1255–	Sir Ralph de Wyllyngton Governor under the Crown.	
–1272.	Sir Humphrey de Bohun, Governor under the Crown.	
1272–1274.	Sir Geoffrey Dinan, Governor under the Crown.	
1274–1281.	'Lord' Holovrinus, 'per baroniam.' (v. page. 109)	
1281–1284.	Sir William de Marisco.	See Genealogical Table.
1284–1289.	Sir John de Marisco.	
1289–	Sir Herbert de Marisco.	
–1321.	Sir John de Wyllyngton.	
1321–1326.	Hugh Lord le Despenser.	

1327.	Otho de Bodrigan.
1327–1332.	Philip de Columbers and William de Botereux.
1332.	Lord de Wyllyngton.
1332.	Sir Ralph de Wyllyngton.
1332–	William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury.
–1337.	Lord John de Wyllyngton.
1337–	Sir Henry de Wyllyngton.
–1390.	Lord Bryan.
–	Sir Guy de Bryan.
–	Elizabeth Lovell.
–	Maude (?), *née* Lovell.
–1456.	Avice, Countess of Wiltshire and Ormonde.
1456–1461.	James Butler, 5th Earl of Ormonde.
1461–1488.	Unappropriated.
1488–1515.	Thomas Butler, 7th Earl of Ormonde.
1515–	Ann St. Ledger.
–	George St. Ledger.
–	— St. Ledger.
–	— St. Ledger.
–	— St. Ledger.
–	Mary Grenville.
–	Sir Barnard Grenville.
–1643.	Sir Bevil Grenville.
1643–	Haunted by pirates.

–1647.	Thomas Bushell.
1647–1661.	William, 1st Viscount Saye and Sele.
1661–1701.	— Grenville.
1701.	Charles Grenville.
1701–1711.	William Henry Grenville.
1711–1775.	John Leveson, Lord Gower (and his executors).
1775–1781.	Sir John Borlase Warren.
1781–1787.	Sir Robert Palk.
1787–1803.	John Cleveland.
1803–1818.	Sir Vere Hunt.
1818–1830.	Sir Aubrey de Vere Hunt.
1830–1834.	John Maltravers and W. Stiffe.
1834–1883.	William Hudson Heaven.
1883–1916.	Rev. William Grosett Heaven.
1916–1918.	Walter Heaven.
1918– —	Augustus Langham Christie.



Genealogical table of members of the family of de Marisco [1] connected with Lundy, *c.* 1150—1327.

[1] The de Mariscos are said to have been a degenerate branch of the Montmorency family—a family so great that it was declared by Henri IV of France to be the first house in Europe after that of the Bourbons. Appearing first in the person of Bouchard I, sire de Montmorency, in the tenth century, it has furnished no fewer than six Constables and twelve Marshals of France. A memory of the name Marisco, which was variously spelled Mariscis, Marisch, Mareish, Marreys, etc., is said to linger in the French name de Montmorency-Morrés and in the Irish family of Mountmorris. For a full account of the Marisco family see 'Les Montmorency de France and les Montmorency d'Ireland,' by Col. Hervé Montmorency-Morrés (Paris, 1828), a work which, however, is declared by experts to be unreliable.

LUNDY UNDER THE HOUSE OF DE MARISCO. *c.* 1154–1321

As far as can be ascertained, nothing definite is known of the history of Lundy, if we except the scanty facts already recorded, until early in the reign of King Henry II. The lord of the island at that time was one Sir Jordan de Marisco, who had married Agnes, daughter of Hamelin Plantagenet, a natural son of Geoffrey of Anjou, the father of Henry II. Sir Jordan is brought to our notice owing to his having rendered himself obnoxious by his turbulent conduct and, on that account, having had his stronghold declared forfeit and granted by Henry II to the Knights Templar. This grant would appear never to have taken effect and the Marisco family seem to have remained in possession, for in the first year of King John, 1199, we find Sir William de Marisco, son and heir of Sir Jordan, rising in rebellion and another attempt being made to dispossess him of Lundy—the grant to the Templars being confirmed and the revenues of certain lands in Somerset, lately enjoyed by Nicholas de Knoville, granted to them until such time as they could possess the island. The deed of confirmation in

its original form is considered of sufficient interest to transcribe in full.

Carta Regis Johannis et Insula Londeiae.

Johannis Dei Gratia, etc. Sciatis nos Concessise et presenti Carta nostra confirmasse in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam pro salute nostrâ et antecessorum et successorum nostrorum. Deo et fratribus militiæ templi Jerusalem Insulam de Lundeia quae situ est in mari in ore Sabrini fluminis inter Tinbeth et Bardestapulam, quare volumus et firmiter præcipimus quod præfati fratres Templi eandem Insulam habeant et teneant totam in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam bene et in pace libere et quiete integre et plenarie et honorifice cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus sicut Carta Henrici Regis patris nostri quam inde habent testatum Testi Waltero Rothomagensi.

Dat per manum H. Cant. Archiepiscopi Cancellarii nostri apud Saqium Anno Regni nostri primo.

This second attempt to present Lundy to the Knights Templar was apparently as unsuccessful as the first, or rather, perhaps, their attempts to 'possess the island' were so, for in 1213 they received from the Treasury £10 compensation and in 1220 a hundred shillings in lieu of and full recompense for it.

In the latter year William de Marisco's rebel activities necessitated the levying of an aid by way of hidage upon the counties of Devon and Cornwall, which he seems to have been attacking, for the siege of Lundy, and in the Record Office is

preserved a return from the sheriff accounting for forty marks received from those counties by way of aid for the defence of maritime ports against William de Marisco, etc., and for a further £47 16*s*. received from Richard, the clerk of William de Brinvere, 'et quondam hidagio posito in comitatibus Devoniae et Cornubiae ad obsidendum Insulam Gulielmi de Marisco.'

Whether, about this time, Sir William was actually dispossessed is not absolutely clear, but the probability is that he was, though, if so, it seems strange that the Knights Templar never gained possession.

It is sure, at any rate, that de Marisco joined his Continental kindred, for in the *Chronicle de Mailross* we find him mentioned as one of the prisoners taken in a sea-fight with the French on August 24, 1217, when the celebrated Eustace the Monk was slain. Three months later, by one of those strange turns in fortune's wheel so common in those troublous times, having given the King surety of his faithful services he was reinstated into possession of Lundy, as shown by letters patent dated November 17, 1217, and his wife, four sons and two daughters, who had been captured on the island, were restored to him.

In 1222 permission was granted to Sir William by the Sheriff of Somerset to remove to Lundy

the mangonells erected on his lordship of Camley in that county. The lordship of Camley or Cameley came into possession of the de Marisco family through the marriage of Sir William with Lucie, daughter of Sir Alexander de Alneto (afterwards written Dannos or Dandos) and Erneburga his wife.

On the right-hand side of the entrance to the Church of S. Peter, Bath, is an inscription which reads :—' Hic jacet Alexander de Alneto, et Erneburga uxor ejus, et Eulius de Alneto, filius eorum, et Lucie de Mariscis, filia eorum, et Jordanus de Mariscis, filius ejusdem Lucie, et Wilhelmus de Mariscis, filius ejusdam Jordani.' (Collinson's ' History of Somerset,' 1791.)

Camley and Lundy, though comparatively far apart, were much involved one with the other, for they were both in the possession of the de Mariscos until at any rate 1242 ; and again, owing to another marriage, both belonged to one family from about the middle of the fifteenth century until some 200 years later, as will be shown hereafter.

It is about this time (1222) that the deed, transcribed in the chapter devoted to Population, etc., making grants to Baldewin Giffard and his heirs in return for certain services, was made.

In 1233 Sir William de Marisco was again out of favour owing to his turbulent conduct and amerced

in a fine of 300 marks to the King for his ransom. Lundy would then seem to have been taken from him, for in 1234 he obtained a fresh grant of the island from Henry III.

Putting two and two together, it becomes perfectly obvious, even from the scanty knowledge that we possess, that the noble family of de Marisco had degenerated into nothing better than pirates,—in a chronic state of rebellion against the Crown, and leaders in all those deeds of violence and piratical attacks from which the coast of Devon appears in their day to have suffered. It is equally obvious that no more suitable stronghold or base of operations could be conceived than the island which the family owned.

Sir William must have died shortly after receiving his last grant of Lundy from Henry III, for we are told that he was succeeded by his son Jordan, who was killed while attempting a descent upon Ireland in 1234. He in turn was succeeded by his son William, and it is these two who are commemorated in the tablet erected at S. Peter's Church at Bath. The genealogy of the de Mariscos at this time is somewhat obscure, but it would appear that Sir Geoffrey, Viceroy of Ireland, was a brother of Sir Jordan and succeeded to the Lundy estates on the death, probably at an early age, of Sir Jordan's son, William. This William would seem to have

died very shortly after his father, and the estates to have been enjoyed by another William, a younger son of Geoffrey, during his father's absence as Viceroy of Ireland. It is probably to Geoffrey's son that Thomas Wyke, Canon of Oseney, refers in his notice dated 1238 and quoted in Leland's *Collectanea*:

> Gul de Mareies pyraticam exercens occupavit Lunday, Insula Sabrini fluv. Baldwine Comes Insulae, profectus est, cum Richar Comite Cornub. fug. in terram sanctam;

and through him Lundy was lost to the de Marisco family for nearly forty years. The event which led to this loss was the attempted murder at Woodstock of Henry III by a clerk, said by Matthew Paris to have been named Clement, at the supposed instruction of Sir William (who in turn was instigated by his father), of which there are many accounts, the best, perhaps, being that given by Holinshed.

> About this time a learned Esquire, or rather a Clearke, of the Universitie of Oxford, bearing some malice toward the King, fained himself madde and espying thereby the secrete places of his house at Woodstocke, where he then lay, upon a night by a windowe, he gote into the King's bedchamber and coming to the bed's side threw off the coverings, and with a dagger strake divers times into a pillowe, supposing the King had bin there but, as God would, that night the King lay in another chamber with ye Queene. In the meantime one of the Queene's chambermaydes, named Margaret Biset, having espied the felon made an

outcry so that ye King's servants whiche came to understand what the matter meante presently apprehended the sayde Clearke who, being conveyed to Coventrie, was there arreigned, and by lawful prouse had of his malitious intent, was condemned and executed as a traitor. At his death he confessed that he was sent fro Wil. de Marish, the son of Geoffrey de Marisch, to murther the King by such manner of means, and not careing what had become of himself, so he might have despatched his purpose.

Of subsequent occurrences connected with this attempted murder the account given by Matthew Paris is quoted :

William de Marisco, son of Geoffrey de Marisco, taking refuge in an island in the Bristol Channel, called Lundy, impregnable from the nature of the place, and having attached to himself many outlaws and malefactors, subsisted by a piracy of goods, more especially of wine and provisions, making frequent sudden eruptions on the adjacent lands, spoiling and injuring the realm by land and sea, and native as well as foreign merchants in various ways ; but when many nobles of England and Ireland, unable to remain at home with honour (the King being adverse to the risk of war beyond sea), passing over into parts not far distant from the above-mentioned Island, had learnt more fully how the said William and his followers could not be surprised except by stratagem, they apprised the King that the securing of this malefactor must be effected not by violence, but by policy. The King therefore ordered his faithful subjects, under the hope of full retribution, to exert themselves strenuously in order to capture him and liberate their country. This same William was very odious to the King, inasmuch as at the instigation of his father he had

conspired against the King's life, and had basely incited to the crime of high treason that miscreant who came by night to murder the King at Woodstock, and after that had killed a certain priest in the King's presence.

Later the historian continues :

About the time the King was in Gascony (1242), William de Marisco, Knight, while he abode in the Island pursuing a course of rapine and treachery, having been surprised by the King's lieges, taken, thrown in chains, and having been with sixteen accomplices legally condemned and sentenced to death by the King's command, being first dragged from Westminster to the Tower, and thence to that engine of punishment vulgarly called the gibbet. When he had there breathed out his wretched soul, he was suspended on a hook, and when stiff in death was lowered, disembowelled, his bowels burnt on the spot, and his wretched body divided into quarters, which were sent to the four principal cities in the Kingdom, by that pitiable spectacle to strike terror into all beholders ; and all his sixteen associates, after being dragged at the horse-tail throughout the City of London, were hanged at the gallows.

After the execution, which is recorded by Holinshed to have taken place ' on the even of S. James the Apostle,' Sir William's father, Geoffrey, fled to Scotland, and thence to France, where he died in 1245. Previously to this, in 1231, he did good service as Lord Justiciary of Ireland against the native princes, having in that year routed the army of the King of Connaught with great slaughter and taken the King himself prisoner.

Lundy was now declared forfeit to the Crown and orders were issued by the King 'to Earls, Barons, and Knights of Devon, to keep or take care of the coast towards Lundy, where the King's enemies keep,' failing whom 'the King had ordered Henri de Traci, Richard Valletort, Philip de Bellamont, and Galfrid Dinant, at the expense and with the advice of the Sheriff of Devon, to keep the peace in those parts,' and an order is also extant to Walter de Bathon, the said Sheriff, 'to keep the sea coasts from the King's enemies who stay at Lundy.'

In March 1245, Henry de Tracy, Baron of Barnstaple, was appointed Governor :

Pat. 29, Henry III, m. 3. The King to all, Greeting, etc.,—Know ye that we have committed our Island of Lundy to the keeping of Henry de Tracy during pleasure, together with the Stock and Profits of the said Island.

Five years later (1250) he was succeeded by Robert de Walerand :

Pat. 34, Henry III. The King to Henry de Tracy, keeper of the Island of Lundy, Greeting—Know ye that we have committed to our beloved and faithful Robert Walerand, the keeping of our said island during our pleasure.

There followed in turn Sir Ralph de Wyllyngton (1255) and Sir Humphrey de Bohun, after whom the governorship was entrusted, in 1272, to the Lord of Hartland, Sir Geoffrey Dinan (afterwards Baron Dynham), who held it until 1274.

Immediately after the expiration of Sir Geoffrey's period of office the first inventory (see chapter on Population, etc.) was taken, from which we learn that ' In summer, even in time of peace, it is necessary to have fourteen servants and a constable to watch the defences of the island, and in winter ten servants '; and further, that at that time ' Dominus Holovrinus tenet dictam Insulam per Bayiam . . . nesciunt quo warranto.' The words ' per Bayiam ' are probably a misreading of ' per Baroniam,' due to one of the many abbreviations which were common in the calligraphy of those days. What the actual meaning of tenure per baroniam may have been has given rise to a good deal of controversy, but the modern view is that persons so holding had some kind of feudal court or ' caput baronial.' It was customary for an inquiry to be made from time to time by the Hundred as to the liberties within their district, and if there was no conclusive evidence as to a right it was the common form to return ' nesciunt quo warranto,' upon which a writ of ' quo warranto ' was issued and the matter came up in the usual way before the justices visiting the county.[1] All efforts to discover who or what ' Dominus Holovrinus ' may have been have failed.

In 1281 Lundy returned once more to the

[1] For these facts the compiler is indebted to the inquiries and researches of Granville Proby, Esq., of Elton Hall, Hunts.

de Marisco family, a conditional grant being made in that year by the King for the service of one-tenth part of a knight's fee to Sir William, son of Sir Jordan (of whom nothing is known) and grandson of Sir Geoffrey, the one-time Viceroy of Ireland. Sir William de Marisco died seised of the island in 1284, leaving two sons, John and Stephen, the first-named inheriting Lundy and the latter Camley. John died only five years later (1289), leaving a son and heir named Herbert.

And now further trouble arose which eventually led to the loss of the island to the de Mariscos for ever. On the death of John, his second wife and widow, Olivia, claimed entire possession of the island as part of her dower, refusing to recognise the claims of her stepson, Herbert, and a curious lawsuit resulted. What actually happened to Lundy during the next thirty years can only be surmised. It may perhaps be presumed that Olivia retained possession of it for a time, if not until her death; but it is certain that at some period between 1289 and 1321 the island fell into the hands of Sir John de Wyllyngton, a relative of that Sir Ralph de Wyllyngton who was created governor in 1255 and whose family was frequently connected with Lundy. In the fifteenth year of the reign of Edward II (1321), at an assize of novel disseisin held before John de Foxleigh and John de Stonehare, justices

itinerant in Devonshire, Herbert de Marisco recovered the island from Sir John de Wyllyngton and the justices issued their precept to put him in reseisin. This precept Sir John resisted, defending the island by force of arms, and Herbert was unable to obtain either his seisin or damages.

Becoming implicated in the Earl of Lancaster's rebellion, the lands of Sir John de Wyllyngton were seized, whereupon Herbert de Marisco once more came into court and prayed that his property might be restored to him. But again he would appear to have been unsuccessful, for in that year (1321) Lundy, together with all the estates forfeited from Sir John de Wyllyngton, was given by the King to his favourite, Hugh Lord le Despenser, ' who rested not till he obtained a release from the said Sir John de Wyllyngton.'

Thus, after some century and three-quarters, ended the connection of the noble house of de Marisco with Lundy. No further attempt to regain the property appears to have been made, and six years later, 1327, Herbert de Marisco died.

In 1321 the second Inquisition of the property was taken (see the chapter on Population, etc.), from which we learn that the island was held ' with all its appurtenances, in which is a certain castle with a barton for which they made no valuation, as the same was destroyed and burnt by the Scots.' The destruction by fire refers to the barton or barn only, not to the castle. In 1326, when Edward II was flying from Isabella his queen and the rebellious barons, he was persuaded, doubtless by Hugh Lord le Despenser, of the advantages offered by Lundy as a place of refuge, and thither he determined to flee, with Hugh Spencer the younger, Robert Baldocke, and a few others. Previous to his attempt to reach the island a third Inquisition was taken (see chapter on Population, etc.), and the castle put in order and prepared for his reception, large carved oaken gates being erected for his better protection. With his few companions the King set out in a small vessel from Chepstow, but after ' beyng tossed with contrary windes for the space of a weeke together at length he landed in

Glamorganshire, and gotte hym to the Abbey of Neath, there secretly remaining.'

Westcote in his 'History of Devonshire' quotes some verses 'writ by a modern poet' which are worthy of reproduction:

To Londi, which in Sabrin's mouth doth stand,
Carried with hope (still hoping to find ease)
Imagining it were his native land,
England itself; Severn, the narrow seas,
With this conceit (poor soul!) himself doth please.
And sith his rule is over-ruled by men,
On birds and beasts he'll king it o'er again.

'Tis treble death a freezing death to feel,
For him on whom the sun hath ever shone;
Who hath been kneeled unto, can hardly kneel,
Nor hardly beg what once hath been his own.
A fearful thing to tumble from a throne!
Faine would he be king of a little isle;
All were his empire bounded in a mile.

Hugh Lord le Despenser was executed in November 1326, and upon the abdication of Edward II Lundy once more reverted to the Crown. In 1327 Edward III gave the keeping of the island to Otho de Bodrigan, and later in the same year the seisin was granted to Philip Lord de Columbers and William de Botereux. From them it seems to have been reclaimed, for in 1332 the same king granted Lundy to Lord de Wyllyngton, who within a few months passed it in fee to his son Ralph.

Hereafter for a time facts become somewhat confused. It is recorded that Ralph de Wyllyngton sold the island to William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, who obtained the King's confirmation upon purchase. It must have returned, however, to the de Wyllyngton family, for when Lord John de Wyllyngton died, in 1337, Lundy was found by inquisition to be held of him, by the tenure of military service, by Sir John de Luttrell. On May 23, 1349, Sir Henry de Wyllyngton, son and heir of Sir Henry, brother to Lord John, died, and another Inquisition found that the island was held of him by William, Earl of Salisbury, by the same tenure as one knight's fee.[1] In 1390 Guy Lord Bryan died seised of Lundy, which he held of the King *in capite*, from whom it passed to his eldest son, Sir Guy de Bryan. Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Guy, married Sir Robert Lovell and had a daughter, Maude, through whom the island came to her daughter Avice, who married James Butler, fifth Earl of Ormonde, Lundy and Camley becoming

[1] A baron enfeoffed by his sovereign under a system instituted by William the Conqueror was entitled to assign to an under-tenant a certain portion of his fief to be held by the service of finding one or more knights. The land so held would then be described as consisting of one or more knight's fees, but the knight's fee had no fixed area. This process could be carried farther till there was a chain of mesne lords between the tenant-in-chief and the actual holder of the land. (*Encyclopædia Britannica*, Eleventh Edition.)

thus once more the property of one family—for James Butler, second Earl of Ormonde, was lord of the latter estate when he died in 1381. Avice, Countess of Wiltshire and Ormonde, died on June 3, 1456, and the property passed to her husband. A truculent partisan of the House of Lancaster, he was taken prisoner after the battle of Towton in 1461, and, with his two brothers, attainted. He died without issue, the date of his death being unknown. The attainder was repealed in the Irish Parliament in 1476, but Lundy remained unappropriated from 1461 till 1488, in which year it became the property of James Butler's brother and heir, Thomas, seventh Earl of Ormonde, by virtue of the deed of partition of the estates of Guy Lord Bryan—John, another brother and sixth earl, having died ten years previously.

Thomas died on August 8, 1515, at the ripe age of ninety-two years, leaving as co-heiresses two daughters, Ann and Margaret, but no son to save the title from extinction. As the elder of the co-heiresses, Lundy appears to have been apportioned to Ann, who married Sir James St. Ledger of Annery and had one son, George. After three descents in the direct line of the St. Ledgers, Lundy became vested in Mary St. Ledger, who married the gallant Sir Richard Grenville of Bideford, and became grandmother of the equally famous Sir Bevil, who met his death at the battle of Lansdown in June 1643.

There are not many references to Lundy during the years dealt with in the last few pages. On January 18, 1600, a report in which the island is mentioned was made by a certain W. Pole—who appears to have been employed as a sort of spy on the Popish recusants of the latter days of Queen Elizabeth—to Lord Chief Justice Popham on the movements of one Sir Robert Bassett.

> Although he stands not curious in any religion, yet lately he has practised popery, as he has confessed that Sir William Courtenay and himself have combined. He confesses that he has a matter of some moment to pursue, and has resolved to have the Isle of Lundy, and to place there one Annesley, a malcontent. I am bound, both in regard to my country and my love of Sir R. Bassett, to acquaint you with this, that the beginning may be prevented.

Early in the seventeenth century complaints made to the Government by shipowners and local authorities concerning piracies in the Bristol Channel became so constant that in 1608 a commission was issued to the Earl of Bath to inquire into the matter. He sat at Barnstaple and took the depositions of three persons there to the effect that merchants were daily robbed at sea by pirates who used Lundy as a place of refuge. This action appears to have borne fruit, for on March 20, 1610, a commission was issued to the Earl of Nottingham to give authority to the Mayor and Aldermen of Barnstaple

to send out ships to capture pirates, and a month later (April 17) the deposition was taken of William Young, who had been made prisoner by a pirate, Captain Salkeld, and escaped. This deposition set forth the details of vessels captured by the said Captain Salkeld, and, further, that he had taken possession of the Island of Lundy, of which he styled himself King.

In Howell's 'Familiar Letters' appears the following paragraph of interest.

> In the year 1618, Sir Walter Raleigh, seeing the influence of his enemies at Court, had contrived to escape into France, but was betrayed by Sir Lewis Stukely, Vice-Admiral of the Coasts of Devon. The fate of traitors, however, finally awaited Sir Lewis. Well did this faithless, cunning Knight who betrayed Sir W. Raleigh in his intended escape, being come ashore, fall to that contemptible end, as to die a poor distracted beggar in the Isle of Lundy, having for a bag of money falsified his faith.

A body dug up by the tenant farmer Hole, and said to have been that of Lord Saye and Sele, may very possibly have been the remains of Sir Lewis Stukeley. It is said that Hole, instead of reverently reinterring the bones, flung them over the wall. That very night he was killed by falling from the cliffs, and buried next day in the grave he had desecrated.

On August 18, 1625, the Mayor of Bristol reported to the Council that three Turkish pirates

had surprised and taken the Island of Lundy with the inhabitants, and had threatened to burn Ilfracombe. Owing to this being denied by Captain Harris, Commander of H.M.S. *Phœnix*, then stationed in King's Road, the Government ordered an inquiry by Vice-Admiral James Perrott, who took the depositions of divers merchant captains and sent them to the Earl of Pembroke. One of these depositions, made by a certain Nicholas Cullen, is as follows :—' That the Turks had taken out of a church in Cornwall about sixty men, and carried them away prisoners. They continued in Lundy a fortnight. He saw the Turkish ship lying at Lundy.'

On April 25, 1628, a letter was dispatched to the Admiralty by Captain Fogg of H.M.S. *James*, saying that a French man-of-war had taken some vessels off Lundy, and adding ' Hope we shall meet with them.'

On June 30, 1630, Captain Plumleigh, who was in command of a warship, wrote as follows to the Lord Treasurer :—' Egypt was never more infested with caterpillars than the Channel with Biscayers. On the 23rd inst. there came out of St. Sebastian twenty sail of sloops; some attempted to land on Lundy, but were repulsed by the inhabitants.'

In 1632 Lundy became the headquarters of a notorious buccaneer, Captain Robert Nutt, whose ghostly vessel is still said to haunt the island. Being

in command of more than one ship, he took to himself the title of Admiral, conferring that of Vice-Admiral on his second-in-command, and infested the 'Narrow Seas,' occupying himself chiefly in the pilfering of small traders. So serious did his activities become that several ships of war, accompanied by smaller vessels called 'whelps,' were detailed specially to capture him. On July 29, 1632, Captain Plumleigh reported that he was just starting for Lundy, where, he had heard, Nutt's Vice-Admiral then was, and on August 5 following, forwarded a dispatch, dated from the island, to the Admiralty announcing his arrival there, only to find the Vice-Admiral gone. On September 4, however, a further dispatch reported that he had encountered and engaged the pirate fleet, 'bestowing upon them thirty great shot, of which Nutt received ten through his own ship; but they succeeded in escaping,' and, further, that he was 'then shaping his course to Long Island, and thence to Lundy and Caldy, which are the pirates' dens.'

Constant harrying and pursuit had the effect of causing the rovers to sink into retirement for a while, but they were soon in evidence once more, and on June 15, 1633, Captain Plumleigh reported having sent one of the 'whelps' in to the Severn to clear the coast of pirates, who had again betaken themselves to Lundy and the Welsh Islands.

On July 30, 1633, Sir Barnard Grenville reported to the Secretary of State that a great outrage had been committed by a Spanish man-of-war, which had landed eighty men on the Island of Lundy on the 16th instant. One man named Mark Pollard had been killed, the remainder bound after a short resistance, and Lundy taken. After rifling the island, and carrying away all the provisions worth taking, they had put to sea again. This story was verified by numerous sailors and fishermen, one of whom, George Rendle by name, who happened to be at Lundy with his pinnace at the time, had had all his money and goods taken. This outrage caused the Government to take more energetic measures, and on August 16 it commissioned Sir John Pennington to put down the piracies. Sir John appears to have put the island under martial law, for on September 9, 1633, he is found applying to the Secretary of State for Lundy to be placed entirely under his charge, as there was a conflict of jurisdiction, in consequence of which application a special meeting of the Lords of the Admiralty on September 24 following is recorded ' to consider (*inter alia*) the complaints from the west country of the outrages committed at Lundy.'

1633–1748

VERY shortly after the events detailed in the foregoing chapter, and probably as a direct consequence thereof, King Charles I appointed as Governor of Lundy one Thomas Bushell, Esquire, who was at the time engaged in working the silver mines at Combmartin—a fact which gave rise to a story, quite groundless, that one of his chief duties was the establishment of a mint on the island. At the commencement of the civil war Bushell, at his own expense, refortified Lundy and held it for the King, as appears in his petition for compensation presented in November 1661, and elsewhere. In February 1645 a claim to the island was set up by Lord Saye and Sele, based, probably, on some grant made to him by Parliament after the death in 1643 of Sir Bevil Grenville, in whose family the island had been vested. Apropos this claim Chanter writes as follows:

> Nor is the nature of the tenure by which Lundy was held in successive ages clear in every case. In most instances it was held almost as a sovereignty under absolute grant from the Crown, or by military tenure, it being rated as the tenth of a Knight's fee. In other cases the ownership

remained in demesne and the custody only was granted, but there is no distinct evidence when it became a fee simple fief, transmissible by descent or mere deed of transfer. In feudal times the separation between the political and military tenure, and the occupation, or usufruct, was not so clearly defined as at present; but in reviewing the long list of noble owners or governors, and the grasping ambition of the Crown to seize it whenever opportunity offered, we are forcibly impressed with the importance that Lundy either possessed or was deemed to possess, in those early days.

The probability of Lord Saye and Sele's claim being based on political grounds is supported by the fact that, in spite of his referring to it as his 'inheritance,' when he finally took possession of the island he deemed it necessary to report its capture to Sir Thomas Fairfax.

Bushell, in answer to the claim, wrote on February 19, 1645, expressing his wish to retain the island owing to its vicinity to his silver mines at Combmartin, and offering in lieu any part of the lands he owned in Oxfordshire. A year later almost to the day, February 16, 1646, a letter was written to Bushell by Lord Saye and Sele demanding that he should deliver to him 'his inheritance,' and at the same time offering to sell it for £3000; as this demand was not complied with a summons to surrender was sent to him by Parliament on April 10 of the same year. Finding it impossible under these circumstances to retain possession of the

island any longer, Bushell sent the summons to King Charles, together with the following letter.

May it please your Majesty,—

The enclosed I received from my Lord Say's servant, who is Governor of Swanzey, which I conceive was sent by his Lordship's direction, wherein he invites me to the surrender of this Isle, being his Lordship's known purchase; in the perusal of which I was not at all startled at the threats therein, but must confess myself moved at the obligation it minds me of, with which I formerly acquainted your Majesty in the presence of my Lord of Dorset, since which Captain Crowther, Vice-Admiral of these seas, summoned me to surrender this place. And not long after Sir Thomas Fairfax sent a drummer with his letter and an order from the Committee of both Kingdoms, wherein they proposed their assistance in restoring me to my interest in the silver mines if that I would deliver up this Island to my Lord Say. Your Majesty well knoweth how I have maintained Lundy at no other contribution but my own, and how cheerfully I have exposed my friends and my own credit for your service, as well as exhausted them in the discovery of the mines royall; besides the place in itself is useless except in some advantages it may yield to me. If your Sacred Majesty would be pleased to vouchsafe me leave to express my gratitude to my Lord Say by my quiet and free surrendering it, which I hope your goodness will not deny me, but if otherwise your Majesty shall require my longer stay here, be confident, Sir, I shall sacrifice both life and fortune before the loyalty of

Your obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS BUSHELL.

Lundy, 14th May, 1646.

To this letter the king sent a very remarkable reply :

Bushell,—

We have perused your letter in which we finde thy care to answer thy trust we at first reposed in thee. Now, since the place is unconsiderable in itself, and yet may be of great advantages unto you in respect of your mines, we do hereby give you leave to use your discretion in it with this caution, that you do take example from ourselves, and be not over credulous of vain promises, which hath made us great only in our sufferings, and will not discharge our debts.

From Newcastle, 14th July, 1646.

Thomas Bushell evidently thought it best, especially in view of the failing power and fortunes of the King, to give up the island before it was taken from him by force, and on February 24, 1647, Lundy was delivered up to the Honourable Richard Fiennes, a relative of Lord Saye and Sele. The following letter, addressed to Sir Thomas Fairfax, gives an interesting account of the taking over of the island.

May it please your Excellency,—

To be informed that according to your commands and Mr. Bushell's promise, both me and my soldiers met him at the Kay of Clovelly, being the place appointed and the nearest harbour to take shipping for Lundy, where we were forced to stay fifteen days for a winde before we could arrive into the road of Lundy ; and his Lieutenant having noticed that it was us, by their Governor, Mr. Bushell, shooting off a pistol, gave us at our landing a salutation with all his guns, and a volle of shot, as an entertainment

of friendship and free welcome, which made me so confident of his former profest fidelity in surrendering the same, that both myself and my men marched thro' his guard into the castle, commanding his own men to remain in another house, lest the ignorance of some men on both sides might beget a difference through exchange of language and misunderstanding of the truth ; but so soone as they had understood the King's consent for the surrender to the right owner, and the conditions made on their behalf by their Governor Mr. Bushell, with your Excellency and my Lord, the morning tide following they took shipping for Ilford Combe, where he purposeth to employ them in his chargeable adventures of recovering the distressed work of Commartin Myne and his other minerals in Wales. The garrison being thus freely surrendered, with all things thereunto belonging, for ammunition of guns and household stuffe, according to his engagement upon the word of a gentleman ; but being demanded of his Lieutenant, Mr. Richard Cock, what store of provision was left in the Island, he replyed, with a deep protestation, that for six months before Mr. Bushell went over to treat with your Excellency, according to your letter sent by your drummer, they nor their Governor had not eaten a bit of bread in six months, nor scarce drunk a barrel of bear in two years, alledging the occasion was the Governor's known losses by land and sea, which caused divers of the soldiers to decline the service upon his proposal of eating horse-flesh, and made the hearts of those that staied more willinger to endure all kindness, to obey his commands without trespassing of any by land or sea, were it to the loss of their lives ; this integrity of theirs, and the honesty of their Governor, as also his publique employment in minerals for the common good being confirmed by the country, makes me humbly present their names hereunder written, as officers and soldiers of the last garrison,

and men that have done the least of injuries, notwithstanding their sad condition, which I wish for the president of others, they may be looked upon as the best of enemies that have conditions from the honourable Parliament of your Excellency.

I remain, your devoted servant,

RICHARD FIENNES.

The list of these men's names which I found upon the Island :—

Thomas Bushell, Esq., Governor.
Richard Cock, Lieut.-Governor.
Capt. Edward Owen.
Major Richard Pomeroy.
Lieut. Oliver Buck.
Richard Kynsam.
William Gilbert, John Scott, } Gunners.
Richard Harris.
Wm. Matheage.
Thomas Brailey.
Henry Botten.
James Bowden.
Samuel Shortridge.
Jo. Wheeler.
T. Thorn.
William Skinner.
Daniel Hange.
George Gibbes.
Francis Hobbes.
Richard Ching.

Signed, RICHARD FIENNES.

Lundy, the 24th February, 1647.

That the island was surrendered subject to

certain conditions not altogether unfavourable to Bushell is seen from the following :

Die Sabbathi 10 Julii 1647. Ordered by the lords and commons assembled in parliament. That upon the delivering up of the isle of Lundy to the Viscount Say and Seal or his assignees, by Mr. Thomas Bushell, the delinquencie of the said Thomas Bushell be taken off, and all sequestration in respect thereof be discharged, and he and his assignees restored to all such rights as he or they had or ought to have in the mines of Devonshire, Wales, and Cornewall, and to all other his estates and rights whatsoever ; and that the men that were with him in the island, being not soldiers of estate and fortune, be pardoned and freed from delinquencie.

H. Elsing, Cler. Par. Dom. Com.

It would appear, however, that the articles of this treaty were not adhered to, for in August 1660 Thomas Bushell was compelled to petition the Government to restore to him the rectory of Euston, which had been taken from him by G. Clark, who, with others, in direct contravention of the articles set forth above, had apprehended him as a traitor and forced him to live for three years in seclusion from all but one person who gave him food. On November 18, 1661, his petition was supported by Sir William Parkhouse, Warden of the Hunt, who sent a certificate to the Lord Treasurer testifying to Bushell's services during the war, and adding that ' in 1642 he discovered a rich mine, and brought 1000 miners at his own expense, and that he was

at great charge in maintaining a garrison in the Isle of Lundy, and was amongst the most active and industrious in the late king's cause.'

The Lord Saye and Sele referred to was created first Viscount in 1624. Owing to his disapproval of the execution of Charles I, he crossed to Lundy in 1649 and lived there in retirement until the restoration of Charles II, who made him his Privy Seal. From this he earned the nickname of 'Old Subtlety.' He returned then to his seat, Broughton Castle, Banbury, 'painted the oak dining-room white, and put up the motto—'Quod olim fuit, meminisse minime juvat' (Lord Saye and Sele, *in litt.*). A local tradition that he died on Lundy and was interred under the west window of the chapel of S. Helen is without foundation, both he and his wife being buried on his estate (*ibid.*). Lord Saye and Sele is chiefly remembered in connection with Lundy through the building of Brazen Ward. He does not appear to have held the island after the Restoration, and on April 14, 1662, he died at Broughton Castle.

After the rebellion had passed Lundy returned to the possession of the Grenville family in the person of the son and heir of Sir Bevil Grenville, who was created Earl of Bath in 1661 and died in 1701. He was succeeded by his son Charles, who survived him by only a few days, being accidentally

killed by the bursting of a pistol which he was examining while preparing to attend his father's funeral. Charles' son and successor, William Henry, died in 1711, leaving no issue, and the island then passed—through his grandmother, a grand-daughter of Sir Bevil Grenville—to John Leveson, Lord Gower, who in 1748 granted a lease of Lundy to Thomas Benson at a rental of £60.

As was the case during its previous ownership of the island, Lundy became again under the Grenville family a base of operations for pirates and desperadoes. In 1663 many complaints were received at the Admiralty from Bristol of the activities of these troublesome robbers, and on February 24 of that year Captain James, officer in command of the guard-ship in the Channel, certified that a Captain Pronoville, a Frenchman, having grown desperate, had fixed himself at Lundy and was doing great damage to merchants. On June 3 of the following year the Collector of Barnstaple wrote to the Board informing them that 'some small Flushing privateers which lie skulking under the Island of Lundy have taken six small barks coming from Ireland, laden with bullocks, sheep, wool, and tallow,' and a few days later a further report from a certain John Man stated that there were 'French privateers lying at Lundy Island. They took a prow, kept the master, and sent the men

ashore at Barnstaple to procure money for the redemption of the vessel and lading, taking out of her a hundred sheep and other provisions for themselves.' A subsequent report sets out that 'three privateers put terror into all vessels ; much shooting had been heard for three or four days.'

On June 21, 1667, the Admiralty received a report from the officer in charge of the district to the effect that 'Lundy Island is very slenderly guarded ; four or five men from a vessel riding on a cross wind crept over the gates and went to the people's houses before they saw anybody. If the Dutch should take the island it would block up the Severn, and a dozen good men could secure it from the world. Every Englishman should be instrumental to the security of his nation.'

Throughout the reign of William and Mary (1689–1702) Lundy was the constant resort of outlaws and malefactors who had taken to piracy as a means of subsistence, and the merchants suffered enormous loss and injury. A story which is widely quoted in histories, and of which Grose's version is given hereafter, must be accepted with reserve, for not only is the amount of stock said to have been destroyed considerably greater than what might be expected to have been found on the island under the circumstances then existing, but the same story, with the substitution of the English for the

French, is told of the Island of Sark at about the same period.

A ship of force pretending to be a Dutchman, and driven into the roads by mistaking the channel, sent a boat ashore desiring some milk for their captain who was sick, which the unsuspecting inhabitants granted for several days. At length the crew informed them of their captain's death, and begged leave, if there was any church or consecrated ground on the island, to deposit his corpse in it, and also requesting the favour of all the islanders to be present, which was accordingly complied with. After the corpse was brought in, the islanders were required to quit the chapel for a few minutes when they should be re-admitted to see the corpse interred. They had not waited long without the walls before the doors were suddenly thrown open, and a body of armed men furnished from the feigned receptacle of the dead marched out and made them prisoners. The poor islanders then discovered the pretended Dutchmen to be their natural enemies the French. They then seized 50 horses, 300 goats, 500 sheep, and some bullocks, and reserving what they required, hamstringed the rest of the horses and bullocks, threw the goats and sheep into the sea, and stripped the inhabitants of every valuable, even to their clothes, and spoiled and destroyed everything, and then, satiated with plunder and mischief, they threw the guns over the cliffs, and left the island in a most destitute and disconsolate condition.

It is some of these guns that may yet be seen on the beach at low tide.

During the reign of Queen Anne (1702–1714) Lundy was for a short time in the hands of the French, who used it as a base for privateering, doing

much harm to the colonial commerce of Bideford and Barnstaple ; and so rich a harvest did they reap that Barnstaple Bay became known to them as ' The Golden Bay.'

During the reign of George I these piracies were finally suppressed, and when Lord Gower granted the lease of the island to Thomas Benson, in 1748, Lundy was enjoying a state of comparative tranquillity.

1748–1925

THOMAS BENSON was a member of an old Bideford family of merchants residing at Napp, who carried on a large trade with France, Portugal, and the Colonies, and from whom he inherited a fortune of £40,000. He was the moving figure in business affairs in Bideford and Appledore and entered largely into speculations of every kind. In 1749 he aspired to Parliamentary honours and was elected representative for Barnstaple on the elevation of Mr. Rolle to the peerage in that year. Two years previously he had entered into a contract with the Government to transport convicts to Maryland and Virginia, instead of doing which he merely shipped them across to Lundy, as soon as he had obtained his lease of that island, where he compelled them to work as slaves in the building of walls, some of which are still standing, and other tasks, herding them when the day's work was done in the ancient keep of Marisco Castle. On being charged with this offence he was able to clear himself by proving that, by the wording of the contract, he had only undertaken to ship the convicts 'over the sea,'

and his contention that Lundy came under that description was upheld.

A good picture of the island and life thereon in Benson's day, as well as some insight into the character of the man himself, is conveyed by the following extract from the contemporary manuscript journal kept by one of his friends.

In the month of July, 1752, I sailed from Appledore on a Monday morning with Sir Thomas Gunstone, in a little vessel bound to Wales, which dropped us in Lundy road. We came from Mr. Benson's house, of Napp, who rented the island of the Lords Carteret and Gower for £60. We landed about 2 o'clock. Mr. Benson did not accompany us, expecting letters from the insurance office for the vessel and cargo which was to have taken us there. The vessel then lay off his quay with convicts, bound to Virginia, but he came to us on Wednesday. The island was at this time in no state of improvement, the houses miserably bad, one on each side the platform, that on the right inhabited by Mr. Benson and his friends, the other by servants. The old fort was occupied by the convicts whom he had sent there some time before, and occupied in making a wall across the island. They were locked up every night when they returned from their labour. About a week before we landed seven or eight of them took the long-boat and made their escape to Hartland, and were never heard of afterwards. Wild fowl were exceedingly plentiful and a vast number of rabbits. The island was overgrown with ferns and heath, which made it impossible to go to the extreme of the island. Had it not been for the supply of rabbits and young seagulls our table would have been but poorly furnished, rats being so plenty that they destroyed every night what was left

of our repast by day. Lobsters were tolerably plenty, and some other fish we caught. The deer and goats were very wild, and difficult to get at. The path to the house was so narrow and steep that it was scarcely possible for a horse to ascend it. The inhabitants by the assistance of a rope climbed up a rock, in which steps were cut out to place their feet, up to a cave or magazine where Mr. Benson lodged his goods. There happened to come into the roads one evening near twenty sail of vessels. The colours were hoisted on the fort, and they all as they passed Rat Island returned the compliment except one vessel, which provoked Mr. Benson to fire at her with ball, though we used every argument in our power to prevent him. He replied that the island was his, and every vessel that passed it and did not pay him the same compliment as was paid to the king's forts he would fire on her. He talked to us about his contract for exportation of convicts to Virginia, and often said that the sending of convicts to Lundy was the same as sending them to America ; they were transported from England, it matters not where it was, so long as they were out of the kingdom.

Shortly after this Benson got himself into serious difficulties through smuggling and what was then termed piracy, and was exchequered and fined in heavy penalties for duties to Government amounting to £5,000. The money not being forthcoming, a *fieri facias* was directed to the Sheriff of Devon to levy the penalties, and under this officers seized a large quantity of tobacco and other goods from their hiding-places in caves round the island. As these did not realise a sufficient sum to cover the penalties inflicted, an estreat was issued in 1753 for £7,872

duties and penalties, under which Benson's estate of Napp was seized and retained by the Government during his life.

No pains and penalties, however, seemed sufficient to deter this extraordinary man from prosecuting his lawless schemes, and a conspiracy to defraud the insurance companies led to his final undoing. Being owner of a vessel called the *Nightingale*, he shipped a heavily insured cargo of linen and pewter, with a ballast of salt, ostensibly for Maryland, caused it to be landed on Lundy, where it was secreted in the cave which bears his name, and then had the vessel scuttled and burned some leagues to the westward. Protests were sworn at Bideford, but one of the crew, all of whom had been picked up by a homeward-bound ship and landed at Clovelly, gave information which led to Lancey, the master of the *Nightingale*, and several of his subordinates being seized, condemned, and hung, first at Execution Dock and later in chains. Benson, who was at Barnstaple at the time, was warned, mounted his horse, and rode all night to Plymouth, whence he escaped to Portugal. He is said to have returned to Napp some years later, and to have stayed there incognito for a time, when the affair had nearly passed from men's minds, but eventually returned to Portugal and there died.

There can be no question that by dividing the

The Great Shutter Rock

Benson's Cave

island by walls, by putting more land under cultivation, and by drainage and improved methods, Benson did more to better Lundy than had ever been done before or has ever been done since by one man (except, perhaps, by Admiral Sir John Warren), and therefore, in spite of his many nefarious activities and smuggling propensities, a very considerable debt of gratitude is due to him. As an individual he has left his mark more deeply on the island than anybody, though, unfortunately, present generations are inclined to lose sight of the good he did in the more entrancing tales of his various peccadilloes.

After the death of Lord Gower the island was sold by his executors in 1775 to (Admiral) Sir John Borlase Warren. Sir John's career as a seaman really dated from 1777. He got command of a ship in 1779 and thereafter did much good service, being gazetted Admiral in 1810. Over the completion of his purchase of Lundy difficulties arose which led to a lawsuit, in the course of which a Master in Chancery, attended by the solicitors of the parties engaged, paid an official visit to the island for the purpose of taking evidence. Certain depositions made at that time are quoted in the chapter dealing with Population, etc. Owing, probably, to the increasing exigencies of his seafaring duties, Sir John sold the island in 1781 to Sir Robert Palk, from whom it passed in 1787 to John Cleveland, Esq., of Tapley.

By him it was conveyed by deed dated June 14, 1803, to Sir Vere Hunt, who at his death in 1818 was succeeded by his son, Sir Aubrey de Vere Hunt. Irish peasants imported by Sir Aubrey did much damage, and their destructive habits continued unchecked until the island was sold in 1830 to John Maltravers and W. Stiffe of Bristol. In 1836 Lundy was purchased for £9,000 by William Hudson Heaven, who built a dwelling-house there and who, with his son, and successor in 1883, Rev. Hudson Grosett Heaven, donor of the church, lies buried within the walls of the ancient chapel of S. Elen. On the death of Rev. H. G. Heaven, in 1916, the island passed to his nephew, Walter, and two years later was sold to the present owner, Augustus Langham Christie of Tapley Court, a descendant of that John Cleveland who bought it a hundred and thirty years previously.

THE BIRDS OF LUNDY

It must be clearly understood that this book can make no pretence at giving a complete list of those birds which rarely, or even commonly, touch Lundy on migration. That is a subject which requires careful and thorough investigation by some competent ornithologist resident on the island during the weeks of spring and autumn flights and which nobody, as yet, has attempted to undertake. It is believed, however, that a complete list of those which breed on the island is included, and it is remarkable, taking all things into consideration, that these should reach the large total of forty-one, besides five which undoubtedly used to nest there and a further thirty-two which are believed by some to have done so.

In 1630 Risdon wrote of eggs so thick on the ground that ' unless you look to your way they must need have been troden on,' but this, we think, may be taken with the proverbial grain of salt. It is very questionable whether Risdon ever set foot on Lundy himself. He wrote, probably, only of what he was told, and his informant doubtless referred only to certain spots on the cliffs where the

assertion still holds good, not to the whole island. The trade done in feathers and eggs, and the annual slaughter of kittiwakes for the sake of their wings, have already been dealt with, and to these it will be unnecessary to make any further reference.

But little has hitherto been written about the birds of Lundy, and with much of that little, it is regretfully admitted, we are unable to agree. Such assertions as that the firecrest was a resident species and the common gull numerous in the breeding season are obviously ridiculous, but, none the less, every detail considered of interest, whether probable or improbable, given by writers on the subject is embodied in the following pages. The books and papers referred to are as follows :

(1) ' Breeding Places of Sea Birds.' W. H. Adams. *Field*, March 13, 1858.

(2) ' Land and Sea.' P. H. Gosse.

(3) ' History of Lundy Island.' J. R. Chanter. 1871, *Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, vol. iv.

(4) ' Birds of Devon.' E. Parfitt. 1876. *Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, vol. viii.

(5) ' Lundy Island.' Dr. Crespi. *Science Gossip*, July 1888.

(6) ' Birds of Devonshire.' W. E. H. Pidsley. 1891.

(7) ' Birds of Devon.' D'Urban & Mathew. 1895.

(8) 'A Visit to Lundy Island.' H. S. Davenport. *Field*, November 6, 1897.

(9) 'A Visit to Lundy.' Rev. F. L. Blathwayt. *Zoologist*, 1900, pp. 375–380.

(10) 'Nature Notes.' A. H. Rousham. *Devon and Exeter Gazette*, June 25, 1908.

(11) 'The Birds of Lundy.' A. H. Rousham and A. J. Ross. A paper read at Exeter before the R.A.M. Field Club and Nat. Hist. Soc., March 13, 1909.

(12) 'Notes on the Fauna of Lundy Island.' B. F. Cummings. *Zoologist*, 1909, pp. 442–444.

(13) Observations made by E. W. Hendy. *British Birds*, vol. xvi, pp. 214–215.

In addition to these, my own papers on the subject, published in *British Birds*, vols. xvi and xvii, and a few short notes by Norman H. Joy in the latter volume, are freely drawn upon.

Gosse paid a visit to Lundy in 1852. Chanter also visited the island, but his list of birds was drawn up from information received from the Rev. H. G. Heaven, of whose competence as an ornithologist nothing seems to be known. In his preface thereto we read: 'With very few exceptions all those enumerated have been seen and identified by him (H. G. Heaven) or his brother. In some few cases, though they failed to bag the specimens seen, they were allowed a sufficiently close inspection to make

their identification scarcely doubtful. . . .' Certain species marked doubtful in the list include 'a few observed by Mr. Heaven, or reported by trustworthy persons, but not certainly identified, being principally young, or in immature plumage, others only seen on the wing. Several other species have been observed, but so casually and hastily, and at such infrequent intervals, as to preclude any attempt to fix their identity.'

Parfitt was librarian of the Devon and Exeter Institution and compiled catalogues of the mammals, birds, fishes, plants and invertebrates of the county, but it is not known that he ever visited Lundy.

It is noteworthy that the *first-hand* knowledge of D'Urban and Mathew was gained during a short visit to the island in the very severe winter of 1860-61, and that at least four of the other seven writers spent less than a fortnight there, the duration of their respective visits being as follows :

Blathwayt	May 5–11	1900
Rousham and Ross	June 6–12	1908
Cummings	June 3–10	1909
Hendy	June 10–18	1914

My own notes were compiled from observations made May 6 to June 29, 1922, and June 15 to August 4, 1923, together with a few reports from Robert Hall, one of the light-keepers, which are acknowledged in every case.

Altogether one hundred and seventy-two species are dealt with in the following pages, but of these at least two—the golden eagle and the gyr falcon—have probably been recorded in error, and there are others about which there is considerable doubt.

At the present day forty-one species are known to breed on Lundy. They are as follows :

Raven
Carrion Crow
Goldfinch
Linnet
Chaffinch
House Sparrow
Yellow Bunting
Skylark
Meadow Pipit
Rock Pipit
Pied Wagtail
Goldcrest
Whitethroat
Song Thrush
Blackbird
Wheatear
Stonechat
Redbreast
Hedge Sparrow
Wren
Swallow
Sand Martin
Cuckoo
Barn Owl
Peregrine
Kestrel
Buzzard
Sparrow Hawk
Cormorant
Shag
Manx Shearwater
Wood Pigeon
Oystercatcher
Herring Gull
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Great Black-backed Gull
Kittiwake
Razorbill
Guillemot
Puffin
Pheasant

Five other species used to resort to the island during the breeding season, namely:

Chough
Gannet
Osprey
Rock Dove
White-tailed Eagle

and a further thirty-two are said, or believed, to have bred there at different times (very doubtful cases are enclosed in brackets). These are:

Hooded Crow
(Starling)
(Hawfinch)
Greenfinch
(Yellow Wagtail)
Red-backed Shrike
Chiffchaff
Willow Warbler
(Garden Warbler)
Blackcap
Whinchat
Swift
Nightjar
(Great Spotted Woodpecker)
(Lesser Spotted Woodpecker)
(Green Woodpecker)
(Goshawk)
Mallard
(Storm Petrel)
Turtle Dove
Dunlin (1904)
(Curlew)
Snipe
Woodcock
(Common Gull)
Great Auk
Landrail
(Water-rail)
Moorhen
Red Grouse
Partridge
Quail (1870)

Species recorded as having visited the island number ninety-two, as follows:

Rook
Jackdaw
Rose-coloured Pastor
Golden Oriole
Twite
Bullfinch
Crossbill
Brambling
Black-headed Bunting
Cirl Bunting
Reed Bunting
Snow Bunting
Shore Lark
Tree Pipit
Grey Wagtail
Blue Titmouse
Firecrest
Waxwing
Spotted Flycatcher
Pied Flycatcher
Grasshopper Warbler
Reed Warbler
Subalpine Warbler
White's Thrush
Fieldfare
Missel Thrush
Redwing
Ring Ouzel
Redstart
Martin
Hoopoe
Kingfisher
American Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Short-eared Owl
Gyr Falcon
Greenland Falcon
Hobby
Merlin
Golden Eagle
Spotted Eagle
Marsh Harrier
Montagu's Harrier
Hen Harrier
Kite
Glossy Ibis
Common Heron
Bittern
Pallas's Sand Grouse
Ringed Plover
Golden Plover
Grey Plover
Lapwing
Turnstone
Knot
Curlew Sandpiper

Little Stint
Purple Sandpiper
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Common Sandpiper
Green Sandpiper
Common Redshank
Greenshank
Grey Phalarope
Bar-tailed Godwit
Black-tailed Godwit
Whimbrel
Great Snipe
Jack Snipe
Whooper Swan
White-fronted Goose
Bean Goose
Brent Goose
Teal
Wigeon
Pintail
Shoveler
Scaup Duck
Golden-eye
Common Scoter
Velvet Scoter
Fulmar Petrel
Black-necked Grebe
Little Grebe
Great Northern Diver
Red-throated Diver
Common Tern
Bonaparte's Gull
Little Gull
Black-headed Gull
Little Auk
Common Crane
Spotted Crake

Arctic Tern and Arctic Skua have also been noted between Lundy and the mainland. In addition to these a Canada goose has been killed on the island, an Egyptian goose is included in Chanter's 'doubtful' occurrences, and a strange bird, described by Rev. H. G. Heaven as seen by him early in October 1876, and judged by D'Urban and Mathew to have been 'a species of *Vireo* (greenlets), a large and

widely dispersed North American genus of small flycatchers,' is not included in our list.

In view of the fact that no organised attempt has been made to study the birds which visit the island on migration, it is surely remarkable that considerably more than a third of the entire 'British List' should have been recorded for Lundy—a number which would without doubt be very largely increased by systematic observation. The fact that not a single member of the titmouse family is recorded, except the blue titmouse as an occasional visitor by Chanter, and then without any data, cannot fail to be noted.

Although Lundy itself has few attractions to offer to the Limicolæ, the fact must not be overlooked that the estuaries of the Taw and Torridge as well as Braunton Barrows are only twenty miles away, and there is a great probability that a vast number of westward-flying species which have rested there pass over the island. The map of European Migration Routes, too, given in Eagle Clarke's 'Studies in Bird Migration' (vol. i, p. 72), shows that an important line of flight passes close to Lundy, and the author observes (p. 78) that, though the travellers along our western shores 'are composed of fewer species, and in most cases of fewer individuals, than those proceeding via the east coast route,' those 'migrants travelling between the British Islands

and the Faroes, Iceland and Greenland, are, however, probably more numerously represented on the western shores.' Therefore we say once more, and with the utmost confidence, that the list of Lundy birds given in these pages, considerable though it be, cannot claim to include more than a portion, perhaps not more than 60 per cent., of the species that visit the island from time to time.

For the sake of convenience Lundy is included as ornithologically a part of Devon, although, strictly speaking, that county can lay no claim to it.

Raven (*Corvus c. corax*)

Breeds. In spite of the small area of the island and the large extent of ' territory ' which each pair of this species is generally supposed to require, it is so numerous on Lundy that until quite recently ravens were spoken of as being ' about like a flock of rooks.' Their increase after 1909 must have been remarkably rapid, if we are to rely on the records we have previous to that year, for Dr. Crespi records that ' a pair or two ' were resident in 1888 and Davenport that a few were seen in 1897; Blathwayt remarks in 1900 that ' a pair or two of ravens are said to nest on Lundy,' but he failed to see any; Rousham tells that a pair hatched out in 1908, but that the young were shot on the nest; Cummings in 1909 makes no mention of the bird at all; and Hendy

Puffins and Razorbills in Flight

states that in 1914 there were two pairs, the young of one of which were shot.

In 1921–22 it was found advisable to destroy a very considerable number, owing to the damage for which they were responsible amongst the lambs (poison having been employed as well as the gun, it is impossible to give any figure), and yet in 1922 at least four pairs nested, if not five. In the following year the numbers remained about the same, and on June 21 no less than eleven were seen feeding together in a grass-field, the produce, very possibly, of two pairs which had joined forces. They are by no means averse to a diet of sea-birds' eggs, and on June 19 and subsequent dates one was observed helping himself freely on the northern side of Gannets' Rock. Unlike the herring-gull, which waits for an egg to be left unguarded before snatching it, the raven comes boldly to the ledge, drives away the protesting guillemots and razorbills, and eats his meal *in situ*.

Hooded Crow (*C. c. cornix*)

Breeds (?). Blathwayt records that he was informed by Rev. H. G. Heaven that a few years previous to 1900 one or two of this species remained and apparently interbred with carrion crows, and that he (Blathwayt) saw several birds which he believed to be hybrids. In support of this it must

be mentioned that on June 28, 1923, a bird (apparently of the year) with a light grey breast was seen, though never any sign of a 'grey crow' in full adult plumage. From the fact of Mr. Heaven saying that they *remained* to breed it may, perhaps, be concluded that these birds were regular visitors to the island, at any rate on spring migration, and in the 'Birds of Devon' we read that they 'used to visit Lundy in autumn and winter.'

Carrion Crow (*C. c. corone*)

Breeds. This species, oddly enough, seems to be but little if any more numerous than the raven, for it is doubtful whether more than half a dozen pairs breed at the most. Both Crespi and Davenport also refer to the species as being found only in small numbers. Hendy, however, states that in 1914 there were 'many all over the island.' In May 1922 a carrion crow's egg was brought to me for identification as a great rarity, and on the 14th of that month I found a nest with young not more than eight feet up the cliff-side and liable to a thorough drenching in the event of an easterly gale. In July 1923 one was seen to attack and severely injure a three-parts-grown guinea-fowl.

Rook (*C. f. frugilegus*)

Listed by Chanter as an occasional visitor.

Jackdaw (*Coloeus monedula spermologus*)

Rousham speaks of the jackdaw as being found 'in fair numbers breeding on the high cliffs,' but this is entirely in contradiction to evidence obtained. D'Urban and Mathew, Blathwayt, and Cummings all refer to the bird as a rare visitor, which it probably is on migration. I never saw any sign of it on the island myself, nor did Hendy, and it is apparently unknown to the residents. On the whole it may be taken that the jackdaw is an absentee except occasionally on passage—a very peculiar state of things when the suitability of the cliffs as a breeding site is taken into consideration and the fact that food would appear to be abundant.

Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*)

Locally extinct. At one time there was a considerable colony of these birds on Lundy, and D'Urban and Mathew, who found them 'fairly numerous,' state that on their visit to the island during the exceptionally severe winter of 1860 they 'noticed choughs picking the bodies of the starved skylarks and redwings.' In 1914 W. Heaven told Hendy that at one time they were 'common as crows.' Crespi records that a pair or two were resident on the island in 1888, and in 1890 a few were yet to be found; but by 1895, when 'Birds of

Devon' was published, they were 'only represented by a chance straggler from the mainland at long intervals,' and in 1897 Davenport says 'the chough keeps chiefly to the cliffs along the Hartland Range.'

The beginning of the end of the Lundy choughs may be attributed to the blasting operations in the quarries whence came the granite of which the Victoria Embankment is constructed, and, although a few pairs still nest yearly at no very great distance from the island, the fog-horn of the North End lighthouse, erected in 1897, does away with any hopes that the birds may return to their old breeding haunts. Another explanation is that given to Pidsley by Howard Saunders, namely, 'that its numbers had been reduced very low, if not fatally so, by the peregrine falcon, which is a great enemy to choughs.'

It is interesting to note that, according to D'Urban and Mathew, the choughs of 1860 used to confine themselves to the neighbourhood of the dwelling-house for the sake of seeking protection from their enemies the peregrines.

Starling (*Sturnus v. vulgaris*)

Westcote speaks in his 'Manuscript History of Devon' (1646) of vast multitudes roosting in the few straggling elders which grew on Lundy, and Robert

Hall says that they visit the island in great numbers on migration at the present day. They are not now resident, however, and the only personal record that can be given is one of a flock of twelve immature birds seen on June 25 and 26, 1923.

The starling was identified by Davenport and Blathwayt, and in 1909 Cummings notes that they had been established on the island ' within the last twelve years,' but that not more than two pairs were resident at the time of his visit. Hall, however, who has been attached to the Lundy lighthouses since 1897, insists that they have never been known to breed on the island, as far as he is aware, and, in view of the fact that they were rare as residents anywhere on the North Devon coast up to, at any rate, 1870, he is quite possibly correct in his assertion.

Rose-coloured Pastor (*Pastor roseus*)

Used apparently to be a regular spring visitor to Lundy. In the *Naturalist*, 1866, p. 359, over the signature G. F. Mathew, may be found a record of one of these birds occurring on the island a few years previously. Mr. Heaven used to say that he could confidently expect to see one or more specimens on the island every spring, and that he even shot a pair at short notice for his friend Dr. Woodforde of Taunton, but that the breaking up of more and more ground for cultivation caused the number

of visits and their regularity to decrease. This pair is now preserved in the museum at Taunton Castle.

Golden Oriole (*Oriolus o. oriolus*)

In Mr. Heaven's reference to the decrease in the number of visits paid to Lundy by the rose-coloured pastor on account of the increase of cultivation on the island, the golden oriole is included. This very beautiful bird is an annual visitor in small numbers to the south-west of England and has been known to nest in the neighbouring county of Devon, so that it may be safely assumed that Lundy has been fairly frequently visited during migration.

Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes c. coccothraustes*)

Though only an occasional winter visitor to North Devon, we read (*Trans. Devon Assoc.*, iv, p. 605, and viii, p. 309) that the hawfinch is also an occasional visitor to Lundy. Ross goes so far as to record that it 'has been found breeding on one occasion,' but gives neither data nor authority for the statement.

Greenfinch (*Chloris ch. chloris*)

Stated by Ross to be fairly common. Two pairs were seen and heard daily from May 6–12, 1922, after which date they disappeared, and a single

bird was seen and heard on June 24, 1923. No other records to hand.

Goldfinch (*Carduelis c. britannica*)

Breeds. A pair successfully reared their brood in an elder-bush in the south-east combe in 1922, but none were seen in 1923. The bird was identified by Blathwayt in 1900; Cummings records one pair, and Ross 'one family,' which looks as though a brood had been hatched by June 12, 1908, at the latest—that being the date on which he left the island.

Twite (*C. f. flavirostris*)

A winter visitor to North Devon in flocks, and one small colony of resident birds is known to exist, so it may be assumed that Lundy does not remain unvisited by this species.

Linnet (*C. c. cannabina*)

Breeds. Very numerous, particularly in the south-eastern part of the island, where the most suitable sites for its nests are to be found.

Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula p. sp.* ?)

Included in Chanter's list of occasional visitors.

Common Crossbill (*Loxia c. curvirostra*)

In November 1869 a mixed flock of crossbills and snow buntings was observed flying across Lundy and several specimens of both were shot (*Zoologist*, 1877, p. 12). The year 1869 was not one of those famous for a great ' invasion ' of this species.

Chaffinch (*Fringilla c. coelebs*)

Breeds. About eight resident pairs were observed in 1922, and the following year the numbers appeared to remain about the same. They seem to confine themselves entirely to the south-east part of the island and are seldom seen beyond the boundaries of the combe and pleasure grounds. Great numbers of chaffinches are reported to have visited Lundy, in company with skylarks, at 1 P.M. on September 9, 1880, with a fresh E.S.E. breeze ('Migration Report,' 1880, p. 104).

Brambling (*F. montifringilla*)

Included in Chanter's list of autumn and winter visitors.

House Sparrow (*Passer d. domesticus*)

Breeds. Over this ubiquitous bird there seems to be considerable difference of opinion. D'Urban

and Mathew (1895) say it ' is only seen as an occasional winter visitor.' Crespi refers to it as being ' fairly numerous.' Blathwayt writes of a flourishing colony by the Manor Farm in 1900. Eight years later Ross mentions their presence ' in their usual large numbers ' by the farm and they are identified by Rousham ; in the following June, 1909, Cummings states that they have been established ' within the last twelve years,' and Hendy that they were plentiful in 1914. Davenport makes no mention of the bird at all. During my first visit, in 1922, five pairs nested—or possibly six, certainly no more—and they were regarded with some curiosity by the inhabitants as an entirely new addition to the avifauna of the island. Twelve months later they had increased to such an extent as to cause the lessee of the island, from whose scanty fields of grain they rose in a cloud, to mutter dire threats of extermination. Should these threats be put into execution it may quite conceivably be a case of history repeating itself, so that the ' flourishing colony ' of 1900 and the ' large numbers ' of 1908 cannot well be discredited.

Yellow Bunting (*Emberiza c. citrinella*)

Breeds. In 1922 some eight pairs nested, being confined, as far as observation showed, entirely to

the south-east corner of the island. In 1923 the number of breeding birds had increased very considerably, as also had the area over which they were spread. The species was identified by Blathwayt and Rousham, but Cummings, strange to relate, makes specific mention of the fact that he saw no buntings of any sort.

Black-headed Bunting (*E. melanocephala*)

Included in Chanter's list of autumn and winter visitors.

Cirl Bunting (*E. cirlus*)

Identified in 1900 by Blathwayt and one seen and heard on several occasions in April 1906 by Norman H. Joy (*British Birds*, xvi, p. 188).

Reed Bunting (*E. sch. schoeniclus*)

Recorded (*Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, viii, p. 308) as being a winter visitor to Lundy.

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*)

Mention has already been made of a mixed flock of crossbills and snow buntings which flew over Lundy in November 1869, and from which several specimens of both species were shot. In the *Zoologist* of 1858, p. 6015, we find over the name of Rev. M. A. Mathew the account of a female, shot towards the

close of May of that year on Lundy, in which well-developed eggs were found. Robert Hall reports that they occur regularly on migration.

Skylark (*Alauda a. arvensis*)

Breeds. Very numerous throughout the high ground. All observers, with the exception of Crespi and Davenport, neither of whom mentions the species, concur in recording this as one of the commonest passerine birds on the island. Robert Hall reports vast numbers annually on migration, and in ' Birds of Devon ' we read that after three or four days' snow during the severe winter of 1860 skylarks swarmed to such an extent ' that often several would be shot unavoidably when a woodcock or snipe rose before the guns.' Great numbers perished from cold and hunger, and their remains, as already stated, furnished food for the choughs which were then resident on the island.

Shore Lark (*Eremophila alpestris flava*)

Listed by Chanter as of doubtful occurrence.

Tree Pipit (*Anthus t. trivialis*)

Several seen by Hendy on June 11 and many on June 12, 1914. Not mentioned by any other observer except Davenport, who says, ' As may be imagined, we saw no tree pipits.'

Meadow Pipit (*A. pratensis*)

Breeds. Admitted by all observers (except Crespi, by whom it is not specifically mentioned) to be one of the most numerous of the passerine birds which breed on the island, as well as being the most widely and evenly distributed.

Rock Pipit (*A. spinoletta petrosus*)

Breeds. By no means so numerous as the last-named species, the rock pipit nests, none the less, in very considerable numbers all round the island. It has been found breeding from but a few feet above high-water mark to over three hundred feet above sea-level, but the nests are far from easy to discover, so vast are the cliffs which the birds haunt.

Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava rayi*)

One was reported to me as having been seen by a visitor at the north end on June 6, 1922, but this may be considered as a doubtful record. No wagtails of any sort are mentioned by either Crespi, Rousham, Ross, or Cummings. The yellow wagtail, however, was seen 'here and there' by Davenport and identified by Blathwayt. It is recorded (*Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, viii, p. 307) as being an occasional breeder on Lundy, an assertion which, in view of the extreme rarity of the bird as a breeding species in

the south-west of England, must be accepted with reserve.

Grey Wagtail (*M. c. cinerea*)

A hen was seen near the farm buildings on May 9, 1922.

Pied Wagtail (*M. alba lugubris*)

Breeds. Seen ' here and there ' by Davenport. Several pairs bred successfully both in 1922 and 1923 in the gardens, farm buildings, etc.

Blue Titmouse (*Parus coeruleus sp.* ?)

Stated by Chanter to be an occasional visitor.

British Goldcrest (*Regulus r. anglorum*)

Breeds. Both in 1922 and 1923 a brood was successfully reared in a conifer behind the villa in the pleasure grounds at the south-east corner of the island. Not mentioned by any other observer except Ross, who was told that it was a ' native.'

Firecrest (*R. i. ignicapillus*)

Recorded by Chanter as having occurred on Lundy. Ross states that he was informed that this bird was a native !

RED-BACKED SHRIKE (*Lanius c. collurio*)

A hen was seen on June 1, 1922. Is stated by Ross to have bred on the island, but no authority is given.

WAXWING (*Bombycilla garrulus*)

Included by Chanter amongst the occasional visitors.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER (*Muscicapa s. striata*)

Numerous in 1922 from May 6–18, when the last left. None seen in 1923 after my arrival on June 15. Hendy saw one in the grounds of Manor House, June 13, 1914, and Ross states that the bird is a frequent visitor.

PIED FLYCATCHER (*M. h. hypoleuca*)

A pair were shot on Lundy in May, 1861. They passed into the collection of Dr. Woodforde of Taunton, and are now in the museum at Taunton Castle.

CHIFFCHAFF (*Phylloscopus c. collybita*)

Stated by Ross to breed, but no authority given. There are no other records of its occurrence on the island.

WILLOW WARBLER (*Ph. t. trochilus*)

Numerous from May 6–18, 1922, when all seem to have moved on. None seen after my arrival on

June 15, 1923. Cummings mentions having heard one and Rousham having seen one. No other mention except by Davenport (' continually presenting themselves '), and by Ross, who states that they breed on the island but gives no authority.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER (*Locustella n. naevia*)

One caught and identified by a visitor (*Daily Telegraph*, date unknown): ' We only once met with the grasshopper warbler, which latter I have reason to believe is new to the Lundy list ' (Davenport).

REED WARBLER (*Acrocephalus s. scirpaceus*)

A lady visitor insisted that she saw birds of this species daily in a certain spot and was sure they had a nest there. A very careful search on many occasions failed to reveal the bird and the assertion of its presence must be accepted with great reserve.

SUBALPINE WARBLER (*Sylvia c. cantillans*)

Chanter includes this species in his list of birds which occasionally visit the island, but the record does not seem to have been satisfactory, as a question mark is printed after the bird's name. This fact is referred to by Davenport.

GARDEN WARBLER (*S. borin*)

Mentioned only by Ross, who states that it breeds on the island but gives no authority.

Blackcap (*S. a. atricapilla*)

A hen seen on May 8, 1922, and a cock reported seen June 16. Robert Hall observed a pair on the west side on May 11, 1923, and states that they occur annually. Cummings saw a pair which he thought were nesting, and the song was often heard, once from two different birds, between the beach and the villa, by Stanley Lewis in June 1924 (*British Birds*, xviii, p. 78), a fact which points to the probability of the species having bred on the island in that year.

Whitethroat (*S. c. communis*)

Breeds. Very numerous on the south-east cliffs and in sheltered dips, May 6–18, 1922. On the latter date the great majority moved on, but many pairs remained to breed, as they did also in 1923 and, doubtless, do yearly. The bird was identified by Crespi and Blathwayt, and Cummings lists it as a breeding species.

White's Thrush (*Turdus dauma aureus*)

Listed by Chanter as of doubtful occurrence.

Fieldfare (*T. pilaris*)

Robert Hall reports that this species visits the island every year. D'Urban and Mathew record that during the severe winter of 1860–61 ' vast numbers

of fieldfares resorted to Lundy Island, where their starved and frozen bodies were lying on the ground in all directions.'

Missel Thrush (*T. v. viscivorus*)

Hendy records having heard one in song on June 11, 1914. This is the only record to date.

British Song Thrush (*T. philomelus clarkei*)

Breeds. Four or five pairs nested in and around the pleasure grounds at the south-east corner of the island both in 1922 and 1923. Recorded by all observers.

Redwing (*T. musicus*)

Robert Hall reports that this species is an annual visitor, and D'Urban and Mathew record that great numbers perished on the island during the bitter winter of 1860–61.

Ring Ouzel (*T. t. torquatus.*)

Norman H. Joy identified this species in August 1905 (*British Birds*, vol. xvi, p. 188), and Hendy saw a female on June 10, 1914. It is recorded in ' Birds of Devon ' as being an occasional visitor to Lundy.

Blackbird (*T. m. merula*)

Breeds. More numerous and more widely distributed than the song thrush, a pair being found

in almost every sheltered hollow. In 1922 one of this species caused some confusion during the early days of my stay, and until it was by chance caught in the act, by exactly imitating the call of an oyster-catcher. It was pleasant to find that the same bird (presumably) was haunting the same spot twelve months later. Recorded by all observers.

Wheatear (*Oenanthe oe. oenanthe*)

Breeds. The numbers of birds of this species which remain on Lundy to nest would appear to vary considerably. Davenport in 1897 and Blathwayt and Cummings, in May 1900 and June 1909 respectively, rank them amongst the commonest of the passerine birds, and Hendy records that they were numerous in June 1914. There were a great number on the island up to May 24, 1922, but by the next day nearly all had moved on, only four, or at the most five, pairs remaining to breed. In 1923 a pair reared a brood at the south-west corner of the island, and these two birds with their family of five were the only ones seen during my stay (June 16–August 3).

Whinchat (*Saxicola r. rubetra*)

Breeds (?). Of this species an odd pair or two could been seen daily in 1922 until May 18. By their behaviour they gave the impression of having

every intention of remaining to breed, but on May 19 all were gone and none were seen thereafter. Hendy saw several on June 14, 1914—a very late date if they were not breeding birds. One pair was noted by Davenport in 1897; the species was identified by Blathwayt in June 1900, and three pairs were seen by Ross in June 1908. In reference to this last record Cummings writes: 'I have never seen the whinchat in North Devon, where, if it occurs, it must be a very rare bird, nor did I observe it on Lundy.' There is no doubt, however, that the whinchat breeds not only in Devon but even, though rarely, in Cornwall, and the numerous June records for Lundy strongly suggest that it may, in some years, nest there. The area affected by this bird would appear to be spreading westwards, for so unlikely was its occurrence on Lundy considered thirty years ago that D'Urban and Mathew gravely suggested that Chanter, in including it in his list of birds found on the island, had 'probably confounded' it with the stonechat.

British Stonechat (*S. torquata hibernans*)

Breeds. About twenty pairs bred in 1922, being fairly distributed over the island, but the numbers had noticeably diminished in 1923. All observers record the species as numerous except Crespi, who makes no mention of it.

REDSTART (*Phoenicurus ph. phoenicurus*)

Two reported by Robert Hall on the west side, May 11, 1923. Both were males.

BRITISH REDBREAST (*Erithacus rubecola melophilus*)

Breeds. Several pairs nest annually in cultivated and sheltered spots, notably the pleasure grounds and the quarries. The species was identified by Crespi, Davenport, Cummings, and Rousham, and Ross speaks of it as being present ' in its usual large numbers.'

BRITISH HEDGE SPARROW.
(*Prunella modularis occidentalis*)

Breeds. Apparently only two pairs nested in 1922 and 1923, both at the south-east corner of the island. The species is not recorded for Lundy by any other observer except Davenport, who implies that it was numerous, saying that specimens were ' continually presenting themselves.'

WREN (*Troglodytes t. troglodytes*)

Breeds. There were a number of breeding pairs on the island both in 1922 and 1923, the situations chosen for the nest varying as much as on the mainland. They were found in ivy on the side of a tree in the south-east combe, in a crevice

in the face of the quarries, under a rock half-way down the cliff at the north-west corner, and in a bank close to the highest point on the island. The species has been identified by all observers.

Swallow (*Hirundo r. rustica*)

Since the Church of S. Helen was completed, in 1896, a pair of swallows have nested annually in the porch, but, although a second pair were seen daily throughout June, 1922, they have always been the sole breeding representatives of the species until the last days of June 1923, when a second nest was commenced, also in the church porch. Extremely numerous on migration, but erratic, thousands being seen one day and none the next. Hendy saw two on June 10, and two more flying in over the sea from the west at 6.30 a.m. on June 15. Identified by all observers except Crespi.

Martin (*Delichon u. urbica*)

Very numerous throughout May 1922, but said never to have remained to breed. Although one pair was to be seen daily up to mid-June in that year, no sign of a nest or of building activities was noted. It was by no means uncommon to see an odd representative of the family (Hirundinidae) in July 1923, and such is doubtless always the case during that

month and, probably, August and September, though no records are to hand. Identified by all observers.

Sand Martin (*Riparia r. riparia*)

Fairly numerous on some days up to May 25, 1922 (after which date only single birds were seen), and noticed in considerable numbers on July 24, 1923. There seems to be some diversity of opinion with regard to this species. It was identified by Blathwayt and Cummings ; Rousham speaks of ' a few ' ; Ross, who was with Rousham, states that it was common ; Hendy makes no mention of the bird at all ; and D'Urban and Mathew in ' Birds of Devon ' mention Lundy as a breeding resort. In June 1924 several pairs were observed by Mr. Stanley Lewis which appeared to be nesting in crevices in the granite on the north-east slope above the ' Constable ' (*British Birds*, xviii, p. 78). The evidence points to this observer being correct in his belief and a new and authentic record is thus established. There were certainly none breeding in that spot in 1922 or 1923.

Swift (*Apus a. apus*)

Numerous until May 18, 1922, after which date only single birds were observed. Throughout the third week of June 1923 many hundreds were to be seen in the evenings circling and sweeping along

the face of the cliffs in the vicinity of the South Lighthouse. It was believed that for some strange reason this great concourse had suddenly resorted to Lundy to breed, but before the end of the month all had left. The species was identified by Davenport, Blathwayt, and Cummings, and Hendy records a single bird on June 11. Rousham and Ross, on the authority of Rev. H. G. Heaven, state that the swift is believed to breed—Rousham mentioning dry-built granite walls and Ross crevices in rubble dykes. It is highly improbable that walls would be chosen in preference to the infinitely more suitable cliffs, and it is difficult to know what is meant by 'rubble dykes.' If the species breeds on the island at all (which D'Urban and Mathew also say it does) there can be but little doubt that it resorts to the slate cliffs at the south end.

Nightjar (*Caprimulgus eu. europaeus*)

One heard 'churring' at 10.30 p.m. on May 30, 1922, in Gannets' Combe (N.E.), and another, near the same spot, by a visitor whose evidence is absolutely trustworthy, in May 1923. Other references to the bird are rather conflicting. Blathwayt and Hendy do not mention it; it was identified by Cummings; one was flushed by Rousham; Ross states that it has been found; but we read (*Trans.*

Devon. Assoc., vii, p. 308) that the nightjar is a summer visitor and *common breeder* on Lundy, a statement which, in face of the negative evidence recorded above, cannot be accepted.

Hoopoe (*Upupa e. epops*)

Robert Hall reports that this very beautiful bird occurs yearly on migration. Mr. Anderson, the officer in charge of the coastguards, and all his men affirm that a hoopoe haunted the vicinity of their station at the south end of the island from mid-March until well into May 1923. On May 2 and several subsequent days one and sometimes two were seen in the gardens of the Manor House Hotel by the rector of Lundy and others. On May 10 two pitched close to the South Lighthouse (wind S.W. 3 C.) and were followed up by Robert Hall, who came upon five together in the quarries. These, or some of them, were in evidence until May 19. Norman H. Joy watched one for some time in April 1906 (*British Birds*, vol. xvi, p. 188), and in 'Birds of Devon' it is stated that 'some years ago it was seen almost every year on Lundy.'

Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis ispida*)

Stated by Chanter to be an occasional visitor.

Woodpeckers (*Picus and Dryobates*)

Ross, without giving any authority, states that all three of our resident woodpeckers, the Green and the British Greater and Lesser Spotted, 'have been established on the island at different times.' No other observer mentions them except Hendy, who states that he saw none. In 1923 I took the trouble, in view of Ross's statement, to examine personally every tree-trunk and post on the island, not excluding the old woodwork in barns and outhouses, and found that not one showed the least sign of having ever been worked by a woodpecker. It is but fair to mention, however, that Lord Rhondda purchased and presented to the City of Cardiff two pictures of Lundy painted by a Frenchman in 1775, one of which showed groves of trees on the top of the island, and, further, that in Isaac Taylor's 'Words and Places' (1864) is a suggestion that the name 'Lundy' may be derived from a Norse word and mean 'Grove Island.' In Samuel Lewis's 'Topographical Dictionary' (1831) we read also (vol. iv, p. 103) that 'plantations of various trees have been formed here at considerable labour and expense, but the prevalence of strong north-easterly winds has hitherto stunted their growth.' Taking all these things into consideration, we are faced with the possibility that woodpeckers may at one time have nested

on Lundy ; but that it is more than a possibility—that it may aspire to the status of a probability—cannot be admitted. It may at any rate be asserted with the utmost confidence that no bird of this family has bred on the island within the memory of man.

Cuckoo (*Cuculus c. canorus*)

Breeds. Heard on May 7 and throughout May 23 and 24, 1922. Birds, taken to be females, were seen on May 15 and 21, and on June 2, the behaviour of the last noted leaving no room to doubt her intention to lay. On June 19, 1923, one was observed to slip into some stunted blackthorn in the south-east combe and to remain there for a few moments, but the growth was so thick that all efforts to find a nest failed. Young birds are said to have been seen on the island in August, and Robert Hall's word may be accepted for this. Crespi speaks of ' a few ' cuckoos. The bird was noted by Hendy on June 11 and 15, 1914, and heard by Blathwayt, Cummings, and Rousham. Ross states that it is found ' in comparatively large numbers.'

American Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus a. americanus*)

A specimen of this rare vagrant from North America was picked up dead at the foot of the old lighthouse in October 1874. It was taken to the

mainland for preservation, but its ultimate fate is not known. There are only a dozen records in all of the appearance of this bird in the British Isles, six being for England, three for Wales, one for Scotland, and two for Ireland.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio f. flammeus*)

A winter visitor of fairly regular occurrence. Ross speaks of the bird as being ' a very interesting native,' thereby implying that it breeds on the island, which it certainly does not. Hendy was informed by a shepherd that he had shot two *long-eared* owls, but, as his informant added that they came with the woodcock, he refers these to the *short-eared* race, and no doubt correctly. D'Urban and Mathew state that this bird is considered the precursor of woodcock on Lundy and that they found both plentiful at a time of severe frost.

British Tawny Owl (*Strix a. sylvatica*)

Ross states that ' night is made weird by the frequent cry of the tawny owl.' Until July 1922, owls, other than the short-eared, were unknown to the islanders, and no mention of them can anywhere be found in connection with Lundy. As Ross makes *no mention* of the Manx shearwater, it is within the bounds of possibility that it was the cry of these birds which made night weird and

that he mistook their peculiar call for that of the tawny owl.

White-breasted Barn Owl (*Tyto a. alba*)

Breeds (?). In view of the great number of rats found on Lundy it is a peculiar fact that this species was unknown on the island until 1922. In July of that year a pair put in an appearance, took up a position in the top of a big barn, and at the time of writing are still resident.

Gyr Falcon (*Falco r. rusticolus*)

This species is included in Chanter's list of Lundy birds amongst the 'occasional visitors,' a statement made, probably, on the strength of a bird shot by a Mr. Wathen, which later proved to be a Greenland falcon. The name 'Gyr falcon' was applied by Rev. R. Polwhele in his 'History of Devon' (1793–1806) to the peregrine.

Greenland Falcon (*F. r. candicans*)

D'Urban and Mathew state in 'Birds of Devon' that, from the description furnished to them of a so-called gyr falcon shot on Lundy 'many years ago' by Mr. Philip Wathen, they have no doubt that it was a Greenland falcon—a conclusion borne out by the inclusion in the 'Practical Handbook' of a record of the latter bird from Lundy. They add that this is one of two Devonshire specimens,

and that it is still preserved in Bristol. A stuffed specimen in the Exeter Museum is labelled ' Lundy, March, 1903.'

PEREGRINE FALCON (*F. p. peregrinus*)

Breeds. The peregrine is one of the most interesting of the many interesting birds to be met with on Lundy, not only because of its beauty and marvellous powers of flight but also, and perhaps more so, because of its historical associations. By modern falconers peregrines from Lundy are rated far above those from any other place, and in so rating them they are only re-emphasising the opinion held by their predecessors of seven hundred years ago. In the ' Close Rolls ' (1242–1247, p. 95), we read that the falcons from the Lundy eyrie were bestowed in 1243 by Henry III. ' clerico dilecto suo Ade de Eston,' and in 1274 certain jurors appointed by the Crown, to whom Lundy then belonged, to make an Inventory of Produce of the island reported amongst other things ' one eyrie of lanner falcons, which have sometimes three young ones, sometimes four, sometimes more and sometimes less. This eyrie the jury knew not how to estimate, and they build their nests in a place in which they cannot be taken.' The value attached to the birds is shown by the inclusion of their eyrie in the Inventory even though it was inaccessible.

The eyases have been taken year after year with probably but few exceptions for seven centuries. D'Urban and Mathew state that owing to this age-long persecution they deserted the island for a time (an assertion which we hesitate to accept) but that in 1891 two eyries were occupied. 'A pair or two' were recorded as resident by Crespi, in 1888; Davenport visited two occupied eyries in 1897, one at each end of the island; Blathwayt in 1900 records one eyrie found and another suspected; Cummings records one eyrie in 1909, Rousham one in 1908, and Hendy one in 1914, the last named being informed that there was at one time a second in another part of the island In 1922 two pairs of birds were in evidence but only one occupied eyrie discovered, two eyases being taken and a third, which was frequently seen afterwards, overlooked. In 1923 only one pair bred and the eyrie was again invaded. One eyas was taken from the 'nest,' a second, which had apparently fallen, was found some distance down the cliff, underfed and blind, and an unfertile egg remained. The fact that modern falconers claim to be able at any time to identify a Lundy-bred peregrine as such amongst a number of others points to some slight difference in size or plumage, but we are not aware that any careful comparison has as yet been made by a recognised ornithologist. They are referred to in 'Birds of

Devon' as 'the famous white-chested race.' Davenport records having been informed by his guide 'that the young of the southern pair always proved the best birds,' that 'never more than two eggs were laid in either case,' and that 'in one year, when he had climbed to one of the nests and removed the infant offspring, the parent birds went off to the other end of the island and engaged in furious warfare with their rivals.'

HOBBY (*F. s. subbuteo*)

It is stated in 'Birds of Devon' that the hobby 'has occurred on Lundy Island in the spring.'

MERLIN (*F. columbarius æsalon*)

Listed by D'Urban and Mathew as 'an occasional winter visitor.' One was seen near the centre of the island on May 21, 1922.

KESTREL (*F. t. tinnunculus*)

Breeds. Two pairs nested in 1922, both towards the south end of the island, and a pair were frequently seen in July 1923. Davenport writes of having seen 'a few,' Blathwayt records the species as fairly common, Ross as fairly represented, Rousham as common, and Cummings as nesting. Hendy identified the bird on June 15 and 16, 1914, but states that there was no evidence of their breeding on the island.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chr. chrysaetus*)

Included amongst the 'occasional visitors' to Lundy (*Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, iv, p. 605, and viii, p. 308), but doubtless in error.

Spotted Eagle (*Aquila clanga*)

A bird believed to have been of this species was shot on Lundy in the winter of 1858 by Mr. Spencer Heaven. The body, unfortunately, rolled over the cliff into the sea and could not be recovered, but from some feathers which were picked up it was concluded that the bird was a spotted eagle. The record, however, is not included in the 'Practical Handbook.'

Crespi states that 'an occasional eagle has before now condescended to alight on the island for a brief rest.'

Common Buzzard (*Buteo b. buteo*)

Breeds. Certainly two pairs, if not three, bred in 1922, and early in that year a male was killed by a farm-hand with a stick, in the act, with its mate, of devouring a chicken. In 1923 a marked increase was noticeable and no fewer than four lots of young were located. Crespi states that 'a pair or two are resident,' and Davenport that specimens were seen 'daily.' The species was identified by Blathwayt (who 'could not be sure that there were more

than one pair') and Cummings, and referred to as 'common' by Rousham and 'fairly represented' by Ross. Hendy found the partly fledged young of one pair, and saw another pair in a different part of the island, but failed to discover if they were nesting.

Marsh Harrier (*Circus ae. aeruginosus*)

Listed by Parfitt as an occasional visitor to Lundy.

Montagu's Harrier (*C. pygargus*)

Included by Parfitt amongst the occasional visitors to Lundy.

Hen Harrier (*C. c. cyaneus*)

An old male was identified by D'Urban and Mathew in the winter of 1860–61, which, they state, 'appeared to be supporting himself entirely on the starving fieldfares.'

Goshawk (*Accipiter s. gentilis*)

Crespi states, obviously in error, that a pair or two reside on the island.

Sparrow Hawk (*A. n. nisus*)

Breeds. One pair nested in 1922 at the extreme north-west corner of the island, the farthest point from what few trees there are. One was seen near the same spot on June 27, 1923. Rousham says

'there are no sparrow hawks,' and Ross refers to the species as 'a strange absentee.' No mention appears to be made of the bird elsewhere.

KITE (*Milvus m. milvus*)

Listed by Chanter as an occasional visitor.

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE (*Haliætus albicilla*)

Included amongst occasional visitors to Lundy and said to have formerly bred there (*Trans. Devon. Assoc.* viii, p. 308, and iv, p. 605; also Harting's 'Handbook of British Birds,' p. 3). D'Urban and Mathew state that Lundy and the Dewerstone Rock, near Plymouth, are the two Devon sites which, tradition claims, were each formerly occupied by a pair of white-tailed eagles.

OSPREY (*Pandion haliætus*)

There is little doubt that a pair of these beautiful birds nested regularly in the vicinity of Gannets' Combe until 1838. In that year the male was killed by a Channel pilot and the female never returned. Listed by Chanter and Parfitt as an occasional visitor.

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis f. falcinellus*)

Stated by Chanter to visit the island occasionally.

COMMON HERON (*Ardea c. cinerea*)

Included in Chanter's list of occasional visitors.

Razorbills and Puffins, N.E. Slope

BITTERN (*Botaurus s. stellaris*)

Listed by Chanter as an occasional visitor.

WHOOPER SWAN (*Cygnus cygnus*)

Stated by Chanter to be an occasional visitor.

[EGYPTIAN GOOSE (*Chenalopex aegyptiacus*)

Included in Chanter's list of species of doubtful occurrence on the island. This bird has been introduced to Great Britain and more or less domesticated, and many specimens have been shot at different times, all of which had, without doubt, escaped from captivity.]

[CANADA GOOSE (*Branta c. canadensis*)

Hendy was shown a lady's hat in 1914 made out of the skin of a Canada goose which had recently been shot on the island. This North American bird has been domesticated in this country for over two centuries, but it is doubtful whether any truly wild specimens have reached our shores unaided.]

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (*Anser albifrons*)

Listed by Parfitt as a winter visitor to Lundy.

BEAN GOOSE (*A. f. fabalis*)

D'Urban and Mathew saw a small flock of this species on Lundy during the winter of 1860–61.

Brent Goose (*Branta c. bernicla*)

Included in Chanter's list of doubtful visitors.

Mallard (*Anas p. platyrhynca*)

Stated by Davenport to resort to the island in hard weather. Three pairs of 'ducks' (presumably of this species) are said to have nested in some marshy ground near the centre of the island in 1920 and 1921. Four birds in 'eclipse' plumage were put up from a small moorland pond on June 9, 1922.

Teal (*A. c. crecca*)

The widow of a Mr. Smith, who used to spend some considerable portion of his time on Lundy, testifies that her late husband shot several specimens of this species. Recorded by Davenport as occurring in severe weather.

Wigeon (*A. penelope*)

Included in Chanter's list of autumn and winter visitors.

Pintail (*A. a. acuta*)

Listed by D'Urban and Mathew as a winter visitor to Lundy.

Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*)

Stated by Chanter to be an autumn and winter visitor.

Scaup Duck (*Nyroca m. marila*)

Recorded by Chanter as of doubtful occurrence.

Golden-eye (*Bucephala c. clangula*)

Included by Chanter amongst the autumn and winter visitors.

Common Scoter (*Oedemia n. nigra*)

Included in his list by Parfitt as an occasional visitor to Lundy.

Velvet Scoter (*Oe. f. fusca*)

Included by Chanter in his list of doubtful visitors.

Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax c. carbo*)

Breeds. About a dozen pairs nested both in 1922 and 1923, eight of them high up on the east end of Gannets' Rock and the remainder in the immediate vicinity thereof. Identified by Davenport, Blathwayt, Rousham, and Ross; recorded as breeding, especially on Gannets' Rock, by Cummings. None seem to breed on the western side of the island.

Shag (*Ph. g. graculus*)

Breeds. According to 'Birds of Devon,' many of this species breed on Lundy. If this was correct at the time of publication (1895), there must have been a sad decrease in their numbers, for in

1922 and 1923 not much more than a dozen pairs nested in all. Of these, the majority chose sites in the immediate vicinity of the Great Shutter or on that rock itself. Two, or possibly three, pairs built on detached masses of rock off the west-centre of the island, and one pair in 1922 nested half-way up the western end of Gannets' Rock. These last birds had probably met with some misfortune during their earlier efforts, as the Gannets' Rock nest was not commenced until well into June, the first egg being laid on the 15th of that month. Identified by all observers.

Gannet (*Sula bassana*)

Although it no longer breeds on the island, the gannet vies with the peregrine in the matter of interest. In that Inventory of Produce made for Edward I. in 1274, and already referred to in connection with the peregrines' eyrie, we find the following item: 'Also the rock of gannets is worth 5*s*.; there are other birds but they are not sold.' As five shillings is sixpence less than the value assigned in the same Inventory to a hundred rabbits' skins, it may be concluded that the gannets were not very numerous. Less than half a century later either the colony or the value of the birds had increased enormously, for we find in a second Inventory, made in 1321, the following: 'Also

Gannets' Rock

Jenny's Cove and Needle

a certain rock, called the Gannets' Stone, with two places near it where the gannets settle and breed, worth in ordinary years 66*s.* 8*d.* but this year destroyed in part by the Scots. . . . Also one tenant who should keep the said gannets during the whole season of their breeding thereon, for which service he will be quit of his rent of 2*s.* . . .' Three or four years later yet a third Inventory was made, in which we learn that Lundy, amongst other things, ' hath Pigeons and other foules, which Alexander Necham calls Ganimedes Birds, having great nestes.' Alexander Necham was abbot of Cirencester, and ' Ganimedes Birdes ' is said to be a play on the word Gannet and to refer to Ganymedes, son of Tros, who was carried off by one of Jove's eagles. In 1613 Michael Drayton in his ' Poly-Olbion ' uses the same name. A symbolical representation is given in an engraving of the ' Nymph of Londy ' standing between Neptune and Amphitrite, a gannet perched on her head and two rabbits feeding at her feet. The lines accompanying the picture run as follows :—

> This Lundy is a nymph to idle toys inclin'd,
> And all on pleasure set, doth wholly give her mind
> To see upon her shore her fowl and conies feed,
> And wantonly to hatch the birds of Ganymede.'

According to ' Birds of Devon ' about seventy pairs bred on the island in 1890. Two years *before* that

Crespi writes of ' a few, alas ! only a very few gannets,' and adds that the egg ' usually fetches sixpence in the market.' Blathwayt writes of about thirty pairs in 1893, and states that he saw three or four pairs in 1900 ; but in 1897 Davenport avers that ' it is generally supposed that the operations in connection therewith [the erection of lighthouses] have driven away the gannets for good and all.' Rev. F. C. R. Jourdain remarks in a footnote (' British Birds,' vol. xvi, p. 154) that three pairs were present in 1900 and seven pairs in 1901 ; that there were no reports for 1902, but five pairs laid in 1903 though none hatched off, and that no eggs were laid in 1904. Captain W. Dark of Appledore avers that two birds attempted unsuccessfully to nest in 1905. Rousham and Ross in 1908 and Cummings in 1909 refer to the gannet as locally extinct, and the only specimen seen by Hendy in 1914 was out to sea between Lundy and Ilfracombe. In 1922 a great effort to breed on the island was made by one bird. It settled on Gannets' Rock on May 8 and spent most of its time there until May 11, when it left. Returning on May 19 it commenced building operations just north of the rock, but left after continuous fogs, disturbed, there can be no manner of doubt, by the north-end fog-horns. On May 24 it returned once more and again commenced to build, this time on the rock itself ; but the fogs came up as bad as

ever a few days later, and it left finally in the early days of June. Every possible encouragement was given to this bird by leaving it undisturbed, and a substantial reward was posted for division amongst the islanders in the event of a young bird being successfully reared, but all to no purpose. There is no doubt that the fog-horn erected at the north end in 1897 sounded the death-knell of the gannet as a breeding bird on Lundy. During the year 1922 odd birds (presumably from Grassholme) were constantly to be seen out to sea and an immature specimen was noted off the south end on June 13. Only two records, however, were provided by 1923 : one of a single adult seen swimming in the Landing Cove on July 11 the other of four birds seen fishing over a mile off the north-east cliffs on July 22. Now that their Lundy station has been finally deserted, no colony of gannets exists on the *English* coast ; but the birds breed in thousands in North Britain, notably on Ailsa Craig and the Bass Rock, and there is a colony estimated at many hundreds of pairs at the north-west corner of Grassholme, an island off the Welsh coast about ten miles north-west of Milford Haven. Captain V. Hewitt states with some authority (*Oologists' Record*, vol. iii, p. 78) that there were a few gannets on Grassholme as far back as 1820, but there is little doubt that the colony owes much of its present

prosperity to the great number of ' recruits ' enrolled year by year during the evacuation of the old Lundy stronghold.

Storm Petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus*)

Evidence as to the storm petrel breeding on Lundy is almost entirely negative. D'Urban and Mathew say ' a few, perhaps, breed on Lundy.' Neither Crespi nor Davenport mentions the bird. Blathwayt writes, ' The same remark ' [' it probably breeds '] ' very possibly may be applied to the storm petrel.' Cummings remarks, ' Perhaps the storm petrel also breeds, but a careful search . . . was unsuccessful in revealing any signs of it.' Rousham says definitely that ' the storm petrel is never seen there,' and, finally, a host of writers, amongst whom is numbered Howard Saunders, assert, doubtless on hearsay evidence, that a few pairs ' are believed to,' ' may possibly ' or ' probably ' breed ' on a small islet off Lundy.' We suggest that there are only four ' small islets off Lundy ' on which it would be possible for this species to breed—namely, Rat Island, Goat Island, Gannets' Rock, and the Great Shutter—and a careful, frequent, and systematic search of all these during the seasons of 1922 and 1923 failed to reveal so much as a feather or the least sign, sound, or scent of a storm petrel ; neither have efforts to discover anybody who has observed them

met with any success. Robert Hall, who was well acquainted with the bird in the Scilly Isles, has never seen one even in the vicinity of the island, the only persons who have done so, apparently, being Norman H. Joy, who observed a specimen during his journey to Lundy from Barnstaple, though at what distance from the former he does not say, and a Mr. E. Ranson, who is stated by Pidsley to have met with the bird there in the month of June. It is probable that a few pairs breed on Skomer Island, off the Pembrokeshire coast.

Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus p. puffinus*)

Breeds. A considerable colony, numbering probably half a hundred pairs (it is impossible to arrive at a definite figure in the case of birds so nocturnal in their movements), resorts year after year to a certain spot on the island. In contradiction of Cummings' statement that it was ' only ' discovered nesting by Mr. A. J. R. Roberts a few years previous to 1909, it must be mentioned that Robert Hall knew it as a breeding bird on Lundy in 1897, and that in ' Birds of Devon ' (1895) it is listed as ' very numerous ' as a breeding bird and ' well known under the name of Cuckle or Cockle.' It was even recorded as breeding by Dr. E. Moore in 1837 (*Mag. Nat. Hist.*, p. 362). The bird is not mentioned by either Crespi or Davenport, but

was identified by Blathwayt, and referred to as not numerous, though breeding, by Rousham. Ross, as stated elsewhere, makes no mention of it. Hendy often heard it at night and was told of a nesting place, but found no nests. Years ago the colony was at the extreme north end of the island, but that ground was deserted, probably during the first decade of the present century or a little later, and a new spot chosen, in his efforts to discover which the writer experienced the greatest possible difficulty and weeks of disappointment, but was eventually successful. It is more than doubtful whether anybody else knows the exact or even the approximate situation of the nesting site. On May 31, 1922, a recently killed male bird was picked up under the north-end hoist cable, which it had evidently struck.

Fulmar Petrel (*Fulmarus g. glacialis*)

On June 11, 1921, a single bird was observed flying in the company of kittiwakes off the north-end landing steps by Surg. Lieut.-Commander W. P. Vicary, M.B.O.U. Commander Vicary has had every opportunity of observing the species under the most favourable conditions in the Orkneys and elsewhere where it abounds, and the possibility of any mistake in his identification of the bird in this case is extremely remote.

Black-necked Grebe (*Podiceps n. nigricollis*)

Listed by Chanter as an occasional visitor.

Little Grebe (*Podiceps r. ruficollis*)

According to Parfitt the little grebe is an occasional visitor to Lundy. (*Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, viii, p. 309.)

Great Northern Diver (*Colymbus immer*)

D'Urban and Mathew saw 'a fine-plumaged adult close to the little landing-stage at Lundy' in 1860.

Red-throated Diver (*C. stellatus*)

Recorded by Chanter as an autumn and winter visitor.

Wood Pigeon (*Columba p. palumbus*)

Breeds. A few pairs nest in a small plantation near the south-east corner of the island. Not mentioned by Blathwayt, Rousham, Ross, or Hendy, but Cummings records having seen one.

Rock Dove (*C. l. livia*)

In the Third Inventory, taken *circa* 1325 and quoted in connection with the gannet, the word 'Pigeons' may quite conceivably refer to this species, and Polwhele ('Hist. of Devon,' vol. i, ch. 6,

1797) says that they existed there in his time, but they certainly do so no longer. Dr. E. Moore says 'Lundy Island is the chief [Devonshire] resort of this bird at that [the breeding] season (*Mag. Nat. Hist.*, p. 228). No mention by other writers.

Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia t. turtur*)

Numerous flocks, some of which comprised as many as thirty birds, were in evidence throughout May 1922, and an odd pair or two were seen well into June, but their note was never heard. Cummings records one pair, which left next day, and Hendy saw three birds on June 13. D'Urban and Mathew were informed by Rev. H. G. Heaven that this species occasionally nested in a small patch of stunted cover.

Pallas's Sand-Grouse (*Syrrhaptes paradoxus*)

D'Urban and Mathew record that in 1888, the year of the greatest 'invasion' of this species, 'a flock of seven appeared on Lundy Island, and remained there for three weeks without being shot at or molested.'

Oyster-catcher (*Haematopus o. ostralegus*)

Breeds. About fifteen pairs, evenly distributed, nested round the island in both 1922 and 1923. The bird was identified by Davenport, Blathwayt,

Rousham, and Hendy, and recorded as breeding by Cummings. A clutch of four eggs was found on Rat Island on May 30, 1922, and on July 7 of the same year, only a few yards away, Messrs. C. J. Pring and H. E. Lynne-Jones discovered and photographed a nest containing no fewer than five eggs. Of these one was smashed in on one side and the contents dried up, three were unfertile, and the fifth in an advanced state of incubation ('British Birds,' vol. xvi, p. 136). The bird was sitting on all five eggs.

Ringed Plover (*Charadrius h. hiaticula*)

A single bird was seen on high ground near the coastguard station on May 11, 1922, and the species was identified by Cummings. Listed by Parfitt as an occasional visitor.

Golden Plover (*Ch. apricarius sp.* ?)

D'Urban and Mathew record having shot this species on Lundy in 1860. Mentioned by Davenport as being found in severe weather. Seen in breeding plumage by Blathwayt.

Grey Plover (*Squatarola s. squatarola*)

Included by Parfitt amongst occasional visitors to Lundy.

Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)

Identified by Blathwayt, 1900, and one seen by Hendy on June 10 and 15, 1914. One seen daily May 14–18, and on June 4, 1922, and a bird of the year noted on June 19, 1923. Appears never to be very plentiful, even on migration. A pair or two of ' plovers ' said by Crespi to be resident.

Turnstone (*Arenaria i. interpres*)

Listed by Parfitt as an occasional visitor. Howard Saunders saw a pair on the island on May 28, 1861 (' Yarrell's British Birds,' 4th Edition, vol. iii, p. 290).

Knot (*Calidris c. canutus*)

Included in Chanter's list of occasional visitors.

Dunlin (*C. alpina sp.* ?)

Seen in breeding plumage by Blathwayt. A clutch of dunlin's eggs, from the collection of Major W. H. Milburn, sold at Stevens' Rooms, King Street, Covent Garden, on January 11, 1922 (lot 563), was catalogued as having been taken on Lundy on June 1, 1904.

Curlew Sandpiper (*C. ferruginea*)

A pair were shot by Spencer Heaven one year in June ' in the bright red summer dress ' (' Birds of Devon ').

LITTLE STINT (*C. minuta*)

Stated by Chanter to be an occasional visitor.

PURPLE SANDPIPER (*C. m. maritima*)

Included in Parfitt's list as an occasional visitor.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (*Tryngites subruficollis*)

A specimen of this bird was shot by S de B. Heaven in the autumn of 1858 (Howard Saunders, 'Yarrell's British Birds,' 4th Edition, vol. iii, p. 437). It was presented to the late Dr. Woodforde of Taunton, and is now in the museum at Taunton Castle. This is the only example recorded for Devon.

COMMON SANDPIPER (*Tringa hypoleuca*)

One pair seen south-west on May 12, and one pair south-east on May 13, 1922. Also a single bird on Mouse Island on July 11, 1923. All were observed at sea-level.

GREEN SANDPIPER (*T. ochropus*)

Included in Chanter's list of occasional visitors.

COMMON REDSHANK (*T. t. totanus*)

One flying towards the north was heard calling on July 27, 1923.

GREENSHANK (*T. nebularia*)

Listed by Chanter as an occasional visitor.

GREY PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus fulicarius*)

Included in Chanter's list of occasional visitors.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa lapponica lapponica*)

Stated by Chanter to be an occasional visitor.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT (*L. l. limosa*)

Recorded by Chanter as an occasional visitor.

COMMON CURLEW (*Numenius a. arquata*)

From one to four pairs seen almost daily during May and June, 1922, chiefly on cultivated ground at the south end. They are said to have nested, but the evidence is inconclusive (Crespi). In 1923 the only record is of one heard on June 27. Identified by Davenport, Rousham, and Cummings, and one heard by Hendy on June 15, 1914.

WHIMBREL (*N. ph. phaeopus*)

Recorded as being ' fairly common ' by Davenport. An odd bird or two were generally to be seen at the north end during May 1922. Not recorded for 1923.

Great Snipe (*Capella media*)

D'Urban and Mathew state that ' one was killed on Lundy,' but give no data.

Common Snipe (*C. g. gallinago*)

A common winter visitor. Norman H. Joy observed two near one of the ponds on the top of the island in April 1906, and one was flushed from heather on June 27, 1923. Is said to have bred, but the evidence is inconclusive.

Jack Snipe (*Lymnocryptes minimus*)

Robert Hall reported one killed by striking the South Light during the winter of 1922-23, and that others have met with a similar fate in previous years. It is noteworthy that this species is more liable to meet its end through the attraction of rays from a lighthouse than perhaps any other.

Woodcock (*Scolopax r. rusticola*)

Found in great numbers on migration. D'Urban and Mathew in 1860 made a bag of ninety-three head of snipe and woodcock, chiefly the latter, and there is an authentic and more recent record of 386 couple shot on the island in six weeks. They are said frequently to remain all the summer, their absence in spring, as was the case in 1921 and 1922, being

held to portend a hot, dry season. A light and a dark variety are recognised, the former being known as French or Russian woodcock. Chanter, on the authority of Rev. H. G. Heaven, says that woodcock have been known on Lundy as late as May and as early as August, but nothing of their stopping throughout the summer months. A cream-coloured specimen is recorded as having been shot on the island (*Field*, January 30, 1864).

Common Tern (*Sterna h. hirundo*)

Included in Chanter's list of occasional visitors.

Arctic Tern (*S. paradisea*)

Norman H. Joy records having seen a bird of this species between Barnstaple and Lundy on August 22, 1905.

Bonaparte's Gull (*Larus philadelphia*)

Included by Chanter in his list of birds of doubtful occurrence.

Little Gull (*L. minutus*)

One recorded in 'Birds of Devon' as having been seen by Rev. H. G. Heaven, 'beating about close inshore,' in October 1891.

Black-headed Gull (*L. r. ridibundus*)

Nine adults were seen feeding in a field of roots on June 9, 1922 ; also one adult following the plough on July 2, 1923, and another on July 14 of the same year. Hendy saw three on June 15, 1914. There are no other records available unless Chanter's inclusion of the 'laughing gull' in his list of doubtful visitors may be referred to this species.

Common Gull (*L. c. canus*)

Listed by Parfitt as an occasional visitor to Lundy. Rousham, obviously in error, records the species in both his papers as nesting 'in large numbers.' The common gull was unknown as a breeding bird in the south of England until 1919, when three or four pairs nested on Dungeness beach (Kent), and not in England, Ireland, or Wales at all until a pair resorted to the Farne Islands (Northumberland) in 1910.

Herring Gull (*L. a. argentatus*)

Breeds. 'Birds of Devon' mentions Lundy as one of the great breeding stations of the herring gull, and this it can certainly claim to be, for many hundreds of pairs resort yearly to the cliffs and

rocks of the island to nest. In 'The Protection of Birds: an Indictment' (Longmans), and elsewhere, an attempt has been made to show the enormous amount of damage for which this bird is responsible amongst the eggs of guillemots, razorbills, and kittiwakes. The herring gull is always on the watch and ready to snatch an unguarded egg. Young gulls, if handled, have a habit of throwing up their latest meal, and an examination of this will disclose numberless fragments of egg-shell, while in certain spots on the cliff-side regular feeding-places may be seen where sucked and broken eggs lie literally in heaps. A considerable time was spent one day in June 1923 in watching a herring gull feeding three half-grown young. Again and again it returned to an unfortunate colony of kittiwakes, and it was noticed particularly that for every egg carried to its offspring the bird first ate one itself. The fact that a recognisable bird has been seen to take no fewer than seven guillemot's eggs in the space of under half an hour is some indication of the toll that may be levied by a couple of thousand pairs during the breeding season. Kittiwakes' eggs are carried between the mandibles. The larger eggs of razorbills and guillemots are frequently eaten *in situ*, rarely pierced and carried away on the beak, far more often carried crosswise between the mandibles, and once, on May 25, 1922, a gull was seen to

swallow a razorbill's egg entire and fly away with the shape distinctly visible in its gullet. Rousham—who asserts that the egg is pierced by the lower mandible only and so carried away—and Hendy also corroborate this predatory habit of the herring gull. On June 17, 1923, numbers of dead young were seen, killed, probably, by a cold 'snap' experienced a few days previously.

Until quite recently considerable quantities of gulls' eggs were collected yearly for food by the men resident on the island and many dozens were put down in lime and water-glass for future consumption—a fact which helped in some measure to keep the numbers of the birds within reasonable bounds. This, it is understood, has now been put a stop to, so we may confidently look forward to a rapid decrease in the numbers of guillemots, razorbills, and kittiwakes. The eggs of the herring gull vary more than is generally known, and several pale-blue clutches and a pair with a lavender ground-colour were found in 1922, as well as a number of 'miniatures.' On May 17 of that year a clutch of four eggs was noted, and on June 23 four young in a nest. Two nests found on June 14 were of interest in that one contained a great quantity of very small winkles, and the other the remains of a large number of blackbeetles. The species is referred to by all observers as being very numerous, though not specifically by Crespi.

British Lesser Black-backed Gull (*L. fuscus affinis*)

Breeds. Not specifically mentioned by Crespi and included with others by Davenport as 'more or less abundant.' 'Birds of Devon' refers to this species as nesting only in small numbers, from which we may conclude that it has greatly increased during the last quarter of a century, for Blathwayt reckoned it to be nearly as numerous as the herring gull, and all other observers (except Crespi) concur in saying that it was present in great numbers during their respective visits to the island. In 1922 the chief colony was at the north-east corner of the island, but in 1923 this was found to have decreased by fully 80 per cent. A new colony, however, which had been established on the west cliffs more than made up for the desertion of the old haunt. Though by no means so great a culprit as the herring gull, this species cannot be entirely acquitted of the charge of egg-snatching, and it has also been known to take young birds from the nest.

Great Black-backed Gull (*L. marinus*)

Breeds. This species is increasing at a remarkable rate if the records available are to be relied on. The bird is not specifically mentioned by Crespi. Davenport includes it with other species

as ' more or less abundant.' In ' Birds of Devon ' (1895) we are told that a pair or two nest. Blathwayt (1900) says that there were then ' probably not more than six or seven pairs.' Rousham (1908) states that there were two or three pairs. Cummings in the following year remarks of the species that it is ' very rare and will probably be locally extinct shortly. Perhaps not more than two pairs are now left.' In 1914 Hendy saw two pairs which, he was informed, were the only ones on the island that year. By 1922, however, about a dozen pairs were breeding on Lundy and eight nests were found that year, and in 1923 the number of pairs was increased by fully 50 per cent. and no fewer than sixteen lots of young were located.

The Great Black-backed Gull will occasionally sink to egg-snatching, but generally prefers to fly at bigger game. Carrion of any kind is eagerly devoured, and the bird will not hesitate to attack a sickly or injured lamb. The species is responsible for a certain amount of mortality amongst smaller birds, particularly puffins, which it has not infrequently been seen to kill by swooping down on a swimming bird and causing it to dive again and again until it drowns. These murders would seem to be instigated simply by a lust for blood, for the body of the victim has never been seen to be touched, being always left to float away on the tide.

Kittiwake (*Rissa t. tridactyla*)

Breeds. Recorded by all observers except Crespi, who speaks only of 'several sorts of gulls.' The most numerous and, without doubt, the most fascinating of the Lundy gulls. In 1922 it was estimated that there were some twenty colonies on the island, varying in strength from 30 to 300 or more pairs. In 1923 it was found that several new colonies had been formed and others much enlarged. An interesting fact in connection with these birds, to which attention was first drawn by Robert Hall, is that *without exception* guillemots and razorbills are found breeding with the colony. From the steps leading to the sea from the north-end lighthouse nesting kittiwakes in some numbers may be watched across a chasm only a few yards in width, and they provide a sight unrivalled in beauty and interest to the bird-lover. A journey to Lundy in May is well worth the trouble and time expended if only to gain an insight at close quarters into the home life of these dainty little birds.

Arctic Skua (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)

One seen by Norman H. Joy between Lundy and Barnstaple on August 22, 1905 ('British Birds,' vol. xvi, p. 188).

Kittiwakes and Guillemots, West Cliffs

Razorbill (*Alca torda*)

Breeds. It is utterly impossible to estimate the numbers of this species that resort to Lundy in the breeding season. Crespi includes the bird amongst the ' chief species,' Davenport refers to it as abundant, Blathwayt speaks of ' enormous numbers,' Rousham of ' countless numbers,' Cummings of ' legions,' and Hendy of ' immense numbers.' D'Urban and Mathew alone write less extravagantly of ' some numbers,' for that was before the word ' some ' had acquired the meaning since given to it across the water. ' Thousands ' does not sufficiently strongly convey an indication of their quantity ; ' millions ' would be an obvious, if pardonable, exaggeration. The eggs of the razorbill are for the most part laid in cracks and crevices or hollows under boulders, and therefore do not suffer so greatly as do those of the guillemot from the depredations of the herring gulls. They are to be found all round the island, though the majority cling to the northern half, and it was estimated in 1923 that their numbers had nearly doubled since the previous year. On June 25, 1923, and subsequent dates, several birds which lacked the transverse white bar on the mandibles were noted at a spot on the north-east cliffs.

Great Auk (*A. impennis*)

Extinct since 1844. A specimen is said to have been picked up dead near Lundy in 1829 (Davenport). It was reported by T. E. Gosling to Dr. E. Moore, who included it in his ' Catalogue of the Web-footed Birds of Devonshire ' (published in the *Magazine of Natural History*, new series, vol. i, p. 360, 1837). There are traditions that the Great Auk formerly bred on Lundy, and the account of an egg, which D'Urban and Mathew say was ' most probably a double-yelked egg of the common guillemot,' and of birds which may or may not have been of the species, is given in ' Birds of Devon ' and quoted here in full. It is in the form of a letter written to D'Urban and Mathew by Rev. H. G. Heaven and communicated by them to the *Zoologist* for 1866. The island was purchased by the Heaven family in 1836.

Lundy Island, September 6th, 1865. With regard to your question whether we have ever seen the Great Auk, I must answer in the negative. There is a strong presumptive evidence, however, that the Great Auk has been seen *alive* on the island within the last thirty years ; at least, I cannot imagine what other bird it was. The facts are as follows, and I must leave it to more experienced ornithologists to draw the conclusion : In the year 1838 or 1839 as nearly as I can recollect, not, however, more recently, one of our men in the egging season brought us an enormous egg, which we took for an abnormal specimen of the Guillemot's egg, or,

as they are locally termed, the ' pick-billed Murr.' This, however, the man strenuously denied, saying it was the egg of the ' King and Queen Murr,' and that it was very rare to get them, as there were only two or three ' King and Queen Murrs ' ever on the island. On being further questioned he said they were not like the ' Picked-bills,' but like the ' Razor-billed Murrs ' (*i.e.* the Razor-billed Auk); that they were much larger than either of them ; and that he did not think they could fly, as he never saw them on the wing nor high up the cliffs like the other birds, and that they, as he expressed it, ' scuttled ' into the water, tumbling among the boulders, the egg being only a little way above high water. He thought they had deserted the island, as he had not seen them or an egg for (I believe) fifteen years till the one he brought to us ; but that they (*i.e.* the people of the island) sometimes saw nothing of them for four or five years, but he accounted for this by supposing the birds had fixed on a spot inaccessible to the eggers from the land for breeding purposes. The shell of the egg we kept for some years, but, unfortunately, it at last got broken. It was precisely like the Guillemot's egg in shape, nearly, if not quite, twice the size, with white ground and black and brown spots and blotches. We have never, however, met with bird or egg since, but as the island has become, since that time, constantly and yearly more frequented and populous, it may have permanently deserted the place. The man has been dead some years now, being then past middle age, and I think he had been an inhabitant of the island some twenty-five or thirty years. He spoke of the birds in such a way that one felt convinced of their existence, and that he himself had seen them ; but he evidently knew no other name for them than ' King and Queen Murrs,' which he said the islanders called them ' because they were so big and stood up so bold-like.' In colour they were also like the ' Razor-billed Murr.'

Nobody, he said, had ever succeeded in catching or destroying a bird, as far as he knew, because they were so close to the water, and scuttled in so fast. The existence of these birds had been traditional on the island when he came to it, and even the oldest inhabitants agreed that there were never more than two or three couples. He himself never knew of more than one couple at a time.

Lundy is rather far south of the known British breeding stations of the Great Auk—Orkneys, Oronsay (Argyll), S. Kilda, and Outer Hebrides—but the description given of the bird in Mr. Heaven's letter and of its habits certainly fits the species and makes us disinclined to agree with the opinion of D'Urban and Mathew that the egg was that of a guillemot. The Great Auk being a rare bird and, apparently, difficult of approach, and therefore in some degree mysterious, leads us to believe that it was to this species Celia Fiennes referred in her book 'Through England on a Side-saddle' (1695) when she wrote:

I saw the isle of Lundy, which formerly belonged to my grandfather William Lord Viscount Say and Seale, which does abound with fish and rabbits and all sorts of fowls—one bird that lives partly in the water, and partly out, and so may be called an amphibious creature; it is true that one foot is like a turkey, and the other like a goose's foot; and it lays an egg in a place the sun shines on, and sets it so exactly upright on the small end, that there it remains till taken up and all the art and skill of persons cannot set it up again so to abide.

The above extract may be found in R. P. Chope's

'Early Tours in Devon,' p. 134. The fact that no remains of the Great Auk have been found on Lundy may be accounted for by the precipitous nature of the cliffs.

Southern Guillemot (*Uria aalge albionis*)

Observers are unanimous in stating that the guillemot resorts to Lundy in immense numbers to breed, though Rousham adds, quite wrongly, that it is confined to the west side. A great number nest on the east cliffs; including a large colony on Gannets' Rock. The 'Bridled' variety is to be found, but not in great numbers, and one of them was actually caught on her egg on June 25, 1922. A new colony of about thirty-five pairs was founded in 1923 at the north-east corner of the island. Mention has already been made of the great damage done by the herring gulls amongst the eggs of this species, and many hundreds more come to an untimely end owing to the clumsiness of the birds themselves. It does not seem to be generally known that the guillemot rolls the egg *on to* the feet with the bill, and broods it held crosswise between their upper surface and the breast, and it is to the fact of the feet being *under* the egg that a large percentage of the losses caused by falling from ledges is undoubtedly due—the bird not taking time, when alarmed, to remove the feet before flight. Colonies

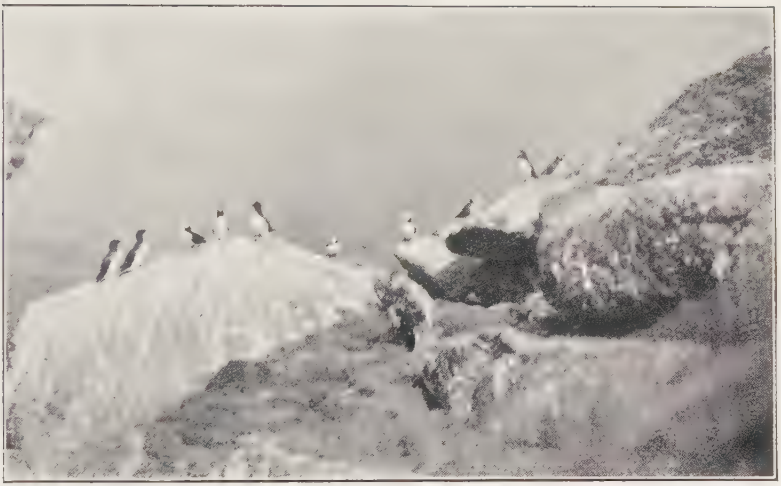
of guillemots are not so easily accessible as those of other species on Lundy, but, as showing the vast numbers of these birds which breed on the island, it may be mentioned that on June 25, 1922, no fewer than 122 eggs were counted on a little platform above a cave on the north-west cliffs estimated not to exceed twenty-five feet by ten—an average of two square feet to each egg. No eggs show such extraordinary variety as do those of this species, and it is stated in 'Birds of Devon' that those from Lundy are specially notable for the boldness and variety of their markings; but, oddly enough, careful measurements of a series prove them to be very much on the small side.

Little Auk (*Alle alle*)

Included by Chanter in his list of occasional visitors.

British Puffin (*Fratercula arctica grabae*)

The fact, already stated, that Lundy derives its name from the Norwegian word 'lunde,' which means a puffin, bears sufficient witness to the great numbers of these birds which must have frequented the island in years gone by, and there is nothing to prove that they have in any way decreased. Recorded by Crespi as one of the 'chief species' and by Davenport as abundant. Rousham's assertion that the bird was confined in 1908 to the north and



Razorbills and Puffins

A Puffin

north-east does not hold good at the present day, though the great majority certainly favour the northern half of the island. Like the razorbill, they were found to have increased in a truly remarkable manner in 1923, and one of the biggest colonies is now on the north-west slope. Hendy makes the interesting statement that he was informed by a lighthouse keeper that they were shifting more to the west of the island since the battery on that side (which was built for use in conjunction with the old lighthouse during thick weather) ceased to exist, and this may certainly account for their marked tendency to spread along those cliffs.

Common Crane (*Megalornis grus grus*)

Recorded by Chanter as a doubtful visitor.

Landrail (*Crex crex*)

There is more diversity about the records of the landrail on Lundy than of any other bird found on the island. In the *Transactions* of the Devonshire Association for 1876 (vol. viii, p. 300) we read that it is a 'constant breeder.' Chanter records it as a summer visitant. It was identified by Blathwayt, but not mentioned by either Cummings or Hendy, Crespi or Davenport. Ross states that it has been found, and Rousham, who was with him, that many were seen. A single bird was flushed

on high ground near the centre of the island on May 7, 1922.

Spotted Crake (*Porzana porzana*)

Listed as an occasional visitor to Lundy. (*Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, viii, p. 309.)

Water-rail (*Rallus a. aquaticus*)

According to the *Transactions* of the Devonshire Association (vol. viii, p. 307), the water-rail breeds on Lundy, but no records of the bird, even on migration, can be found and the statement must be accepted with reserve.

Moorhen (*Gallinula ch. chloropus*)

A pair used to haunt wet ground in the south-east combe, and others two ponds on the top of the island, but no sign of them was seen in either 1922 or 1923.

Red Grouse (*Lagopus scoticus*)

In 'Birds of Devon' it is stated that 'Red Grouse have from time to time been turned down on Lundy Island, only to be devoured by the rats.'

Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)

Recently introduced. At least two broods hatched in 1922, and more in 1923.

Partridge (*Perdix p. perdix*)

Stated by D'Urban and Mathew to have been turned down but, like the red grouse, destroyed by the rats. Chanter states that there were about forty brace on the island in 1791.

Quail (*Coturnix c. coturnix*)

Listed in ' Birds of Devon ' as an annual visitor on migration. In 1870 a considerable number remained on the island to breed, and Rev. H. G. Heaven knew of thirteen or fourteen nests.

MAMMALIA

A PECULIARITY of Lundy is the very restricted list of mammals found on the island. Chanter writes: 'The indigenous terrestrial mammalia are represented by two animals only—rats and rabbits, both of which abound.' Grose, in his description of Lundy, written in 1775, says: 'Rats are so numerous here as to be very troublesome. They are all of the black sort; the great brown rat, which has extirpated this kind all over Britain, not having yet found its way here.' Mr. Heaven reported a different state of things a hundred years later. By 1877 the brown or Norway rat, which had probably found its way to the island from some shipwrecked vessel, had increased enormously, he said, and the old English black rat had become almost extinct. Even now, however, a remnant survives, and the black species may yet be seen by the fortunate.

Mr. Heaven also mentions a third variety, which he describes as of a reddish or fox colour, with a longer and thinner tail and much larger ears than the ordinary rat, but otherwise resembling it. This variety in his day was locally called the 'red rat,' and though scarce and rarely captured was persistent on

the island. At the present day, though not entirely extinct, from reports received it is but very rarely met with. The rabbits, too, have much decreased in number. The common mouse, one, or possibly two, species of vole, and the common seal complete the list of Mammals, unless the 'deer' mentioned by some writers, and extinct since early in the nineteenth century, are admitted. The hedgehog, the mole, the stoat and the weasel—even the bat—all these are unknown, neither do any snakes or reptiles exist on the island.

NON-MARINE MOLLUSCA

The following is the list of Non-Marine Mollusca given by J. R. le B. Tomlin, Esq., in a paper, 'The Land-Shells of Lundy Island,' read before the Conchological Society on February 13, 1907, and subsequently printed in the *Journal of Conchology*. To this list may be added *Limax maximus*, Linné, and *Hygromia rufescens*, Pennant, identified by myself in 1922—the former a single specimen in the hotel garden, and the latter sparsely in the neighbourhood of the 'Ugly.'

Limax flavus, L. Observed once or twice in damp ground.
Agriolimax agrestis, L. Common.
A. laevis, Müll. Common.
Milax Sowerbyi, Fér. Occasional; on old walls.
Vitrina pellucida, Müll. Fairly common.
Vitrea crystallina, Müll. A few in moss.
V. cellaria, Müll. Only dead shells.
V. alliaria, Miller. Not uncommon in moss.
V. nitidula, Drap. Not uncommon in moss.
V. pura v. nitidosa, Gray. I did not find the type, though it doubtless occurs.
V. radiatula, Alder. Common in moss.
Zonitoides nitidus, Müll. Common in marshy ground towards the north end.
Euconulus fulvus, Müll. Not uncommon, but small.

Arion ater, L. Not uncommon.

A. fasciatus, Nilsson. Not uncommon.

Punctum pygmaeum, Drap. A few in moss.

Sphyradium edentulum, Drap. Common.

Pyramidula rotundata, Müll. Common and rather large.

Helicella caperata, Mont. Dead shells only.

Hygromia granulata, Alder. Rare; strange to say, I did not observe *H. hispida*, L.

H. revelata, Fér. Not at all uncommon on the cliffs in situations similar to those in which it occurs in the Channel Isles. Only a short time before it turned up I remarked on the possibility of finding it and the likely appearance of the ground. Lundy, with its granite cliffs, is, I imagine, geologically similar to the Channel Isles.

Acanthinula aculeata, Müll. Rare in moss.

Acanthinula aculeata v. albida, Jeff. A single living specimen.

Vallonia excentrica, Sterki. Several examples.

Helix aspersa, Müll. In gardens.

H. nemoralis, L. Apparently very scarce, but this may be due to the time of the year. [Abundant July 22, 1921.—*N. G. Haddon.*]

Cochlicopa lubrica, Müll. Very common.

Cochlicopa lubrica v. hyalina, Jeff. Several specimens in moss.

Jaminia anglica, Fér. Very local, but common.

J. cylindracea, Da C. Common.

J. cylindracea v. curta, West. With the type.

Vertigo substriata, Jeff. Rare.

Pisidium pusillum, Gmel. In ponds.

Pisidium pusillum v. grandis, Adams. Common in a quarry pond on the east side.

V. pygmaea, Drap. Common.

Balea perversa, L. Obtained in great numbers by beating old and half-dead branches of gorse.

Clausilia bidentata, Strom. Fairly common.

Phytia myosotis, Drap. A single example at the Landing Place.

Limnaea truncatula, Müll. A few very fine examples in a pond towards the Shutter Rock.

Coleoptera

A list of Coleoptera identified on Lundy by the following investigators—Mr. Woolaston 1844–5, Mr. F. Smith 1870 and 1874, Dr. C. H. Joy 1905, Mr. J. R. le B. Tomlin 1905, and Mr. Donnisthorpe—may be found under the references given below:

Entomological Monthly Magazine (1906), pp. 1–5, p. 156.
" " " (1907), p. 27.
" " " (1908), p. 156.
" " " (1909), p. 110.

Hymenoptera

Taken by Mr. F. Smith, 1870 and 1874.

Formica fusca
" *nigra*
" *flava*
" *cunicularia*
Myrmica laevinodis
" *ruginodis*
Pompilus gibbus
Odynerus gracilis
" *trimarginatus*
Vespa vulgaris
Vespa Sylvestris
Colletes succincta
Sphecodes rufescens
" *gibbus*
" *subquadratus*
Halictus rubicundus
" *cylindricus*
" *tumulorum*
" *morio*
" *pubescens*

Puffins at Home, N.E. Slope

Halictus minutus
„ *leucogonius*
Nomada ruficornis
„ *Jacobaea*
Bombus hortorum
„ *lucorum*
Apathus vestalis
Apis mellifica

Homoptera

Stenobothrus biguttatus
Ptyelus lineatus
Ptyelus bifasciatus
Evacanthus interruptus

Lepidoptera

Clouded Yellow	*Colias edusa*
Cabbage White	*Synchloë brassicae*
Small White	„ *rapae*
Green-veined White	„ *napi*
Orange-tip	*Euchloë cardamines*
Heath Fritillary	*Melitaea athalia*
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	*Argynnis selene*
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	„ *euphrosyne*
Comma	*Vanessa C. album*
Large Tortoiseshell	„ *polychloros*
Small „	„ *urticae*
Peacock	*Vanessa io*
Red Admiral	*Pyrameis atalanta*
Painted Lady	„ *cardui*
Small Meadow Brown	*Epinephele tithonus*
Large „ „	„ *janira*
Small Heath	*Caenonympha pamphilus*
„ Copper	*Chrysophanus phlaeas*
Brown Argus	*Lycaena agrestis*
Common Blue	„ *alexis*
Brimstone	*Gonepterye rhamni*

Heterocera (Moths)

Zygaena.

Broad-bordered Five-spot Burnet	*Zygaena trifolii*
Six-spotted Burnet . .	„ *filipendulae*

Sphinx

Humming-bird . . .	*Macroglossa stellatarum*
Poplar Hawk . . .	*Laothoë populi*
Death's Head . . .	*Acherontia atropos*
Convolvulus Hawk . .	*Protoparce convolvuli*

Phalaena

Golden Swift . . .	*Hepialus hectus*
Buff Tip	*Pygoera bucephala*
Rusty Prominent . .	*Notodonta dromedarius*
Glory of Kent . . .	*Endromis versicolor*
Emperor	*Saturnia pavonia minor*
Oak Egger	*Lasiocampa quercus*
Ground Lackey . . .	*Clisiocampa castrensis*
Great Tiger . . .	*Arctia caja*
Great Yellow Underwing .	*Triphaena pronuba*
Common Dart . . .	*Agrotis segetum*
Silver Y	*Plusia gamma*
Pale Thorn . . .	*Geometra canaria*
Brimstone	*Rumia crataegata*
Waved Umbre . . .	*Hemerophila abruptaria*
Spinach	*Electra spinachiata*
Magpie	*Abraxas grossulariata*
Marbled Beauty . . .	*Bryophila glandifera*
Wormwood Plume . .	*Pterophorus spilodactylus*
Sixcleft Plume . . .	*Alucita hexadactyla*
Ochreous Plume . .	*Pterophorus octodactylus*

Additional Moths

Cream-spotted Tiger	*Arctia villica*
Broom	*Mamestra pisi*
Purple Bar	*Harphalyce ocellata*
Mottled Beauty	*Alcis upandata*
Large Mocha	*Charissa serotinaria*
Rufous Carpet	*Cidaria munitata*
Chequered Straw	*Margaritia stramentalis*
Brindled Straw	*Depressaria gilvella*
Plain August Thorn	*Geometra quercinaria*
Solandrian	*Poecilochroma solandriana*
Sallow Long-cloak Tortrix	*Antithesia capraeana*
Dagger	*Acronyeta psi*
White-fronted	*Albifrontale amaurosetia*
Beautiful Brocade	*Hadena contigua*
Inlaid Veneer	*Crambus pascuellus*
Garden Carpet	*Cidaria fluctuata*
Grass Egger	*Lasiocampa trifolii*
Cabbage	*Mamastra brassica*
Spectacle	*Abrostola urticae*
Resin Grey	*Eudorea resina*
Lesser Yellow Underwing	*Triphaena orbona*
Yellowtail	*Porthesia chrysorrhoea*
Rosy Flounced	*Endotricha flammealis*
Common Footman	*Lithosia complanula*
Rustic Shoulder Knot	*Apamea (Hania) basilinea*
Flame	*Xylina putrix*
Puss	*Cerura vinula*
Dark Marbled Carpet	*Harphalyce immanata*
Fox Colour	*Lasicreampa rubi*
Small Argent Sable	*Harphalyce tristata*
Dark Arches	*Xylophasia polyoctron*
Bramble	*Acronyctos peumicis*

Red Arches	*Callimorpha miniata*
Russet	*Apamea furca*
	Aecophora pseudo-spretella
Honeycomb Moth	*Galleria cerella*
Cloud-bordered Brindled	*Xylophasia hepatica*
Twin-spot Carpet	*Cidaria didymata*
Common Fanfoot	*Polypogo barbalis*
Riband Wave	*Acidalia aversata*
Small Straw-coloured Veneer	*Crambus culmellus*
Resin Gray	*Eudore resinalis*
Dark Oblique-bar	*Lozotaemia heparana*
Golden Bar	*Apamea nictitans*
Purple Thorn	*Geometra illustraria*
Purple Bar	*Harphalyce ocellata*

(The above list was kindly sent to me by Dr. J. C. Heaven, who copied it from additions to the list of Chanter's in his possession made by Rev. H. G. Heaven as specimens were brought in and identified.)

Plants.

Where a * appears, it denotes that there are also pure white varieties of the plant.

Water Crowfoot	*Ranunculus aquatilis*
Great Spearwort	,, *lingua*
Lesser ,,	,, *flammula*
,, Celandine or Pilewort	,, *ficaria*
Bulbous Buttercup	,, *bulbosus*
Meadow Crowfoot or Buttercup	,, *acris*
Creeping Crowfoot or Buttercup	,, *repens*
Marsh Marigold	*Caltha palustris*

Columbine	*Aquilegia vulgaris*
Fumitory	*Fumaria officinalis*
Shepherd's Purse	*Capsella bursapastoris*
Teesdalia	*Teesdalia nudicaulis*
Scurvy Grass	*Cochlearia officinalis*
English Scurvy Grass	,, *anglica*
Sweet Alyssum	*Königa maritima*
Common Water Cress	*Nasturtium officinale*
,, Hedge Mustard	*Sisymbrium* ,,
,, Wild Navew	*Brassica campestris*
Sea Cabbage	,, *oleracea*
Wild Mustard or Charlock	*Sinapis arvensis*
Dyer's Rocket Yellow Weed or Weld	*Reseda luteola*
Marsh Violet	*Viola palustris*
Dog ,,	,, *canina*
Pansy or Heartsease	,, *tricolor*
Round-leaved Sundew or Fly Trap	*Drosera rotundifolia*
Common Milkwort	*Polygala vulgaris* *
Corn Cockle	*Agrostemina githago*
Bladder Campion	*Silene inflata*
Sea Campion, or Catch Fly	,, *maritima*
White Campion	*Lychnis vespertina*
Red ,,	,, *diurna*
Procumbent Pearlwort	*Sagina procumbens*
Corn Spurry	*Spergula arvensis*
Chickweed	*Stellaria media*
Greater Stichwort, Satin Flower or Addersmeat	,, *holostea*
Lesser Stichwort	,, *graminea*
Bog ,,	,, *uliginosa*
Sea Sandwort	*Arenaria marina*
Common Flax	*Linum usitatissimum*

Common Mallow or Marsh Mallow	*Malva sylvestris*
Musk Mallow	,, *moschata*
Common Lime or Linden	*Tilia Europæa*
Upright Perforated St. John's Wort	*Hypericum perforatum*
Trailing St. John's Wort	,, *humifusum*
Small Upright St. John's Wort	,, *pulchrum*
Marsh St. John's Wort	,, *elodes*
Greater Maple or Sycamore	*Acer pseudo-platanus*
Herb Robert	*Geranium Robertianum*
Dovesfoot Crane's Bill	*Geranium molle*
Common Furze, or Whin	*Ulex Europæus*
Dwarf Furze	,, *nanus*
Common Broom	*Sarothamnus scoparius*
Kidney Veitch, or Lady's Fingers	*Anthyllis vulneraria*
Black Medick, or Nonsuch	*Medicago lupulina*
Common Yellow Melilot	*Melilotus officinalis*
White or Dutch Clover	*Trifolium repens*
Common Purple Clover	,, *pratense*
Haresfoot Trefoil	,, *arvense*
Soft Knotted Trefoil	,, *striatum*
Hop Trefoil	,, *procumbens*
Greater Birdsfoot Trefoil	*Lotus major*
Common Birdsfoot Trefoil, or Lady's Slipper or Cross-toes	,, *corniculatus*
Slender Yellow Trefoil	*Trifolium minus*, or *filiforme*
Tufted Vetch	*Vicia cracca*
Spring ,,	,, *lathyroides*
Common Vetch	,, *sativa*
Birdsfoot	*Ornithopus pupusillus*
Sloe or Black Thorn	*Prunus communis*

Silverweed	*Potentilla anserina*
Spring Cinquefoil	,, *verna*
Tormentil	,, *tormentilla*
Strawberry-leaved Cinquefoil	,, *fragariastra*
Common Bramble	*Rubus fruticosus*
Dewberry	,, *cæsius*
Burnet or Bloodwort	*Sanguisorba officinalis*
Scotch Rose or Burnet-leaved Rose	*Rosa spinosissima*
Sweet Brier	,, *rubiginosa*
Dog Rose	,, *canina*
Mountain Ash	*Pyrus aucuparia*
Hawthorn or May	*Cratægus oxyacantha*
Willow Herb (2 or 3 varieties not identified)	*Epilobium* (*palustre*, *Montanum*) (?)
Water Purslane	*Pelpis portula*
Tamarisk	*Tamarix Anglica*
Water Blinks	*Montia fontana*
Whorled Knot Grass	*Illecebrum verticillatum*
Wall Pennywort	*Cotyledon umbilicus*
English Stonecrop	*Sedum Anglicum*
White Stonecrop	,, *album*
London Pride	*Saxifraga umbrosa*
Common White Rot or Bane, or Marsh Pennywort	*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*
Corn Parsley	*Pretroselinum segetum*
Marshwort	*Heliosciadum nodiflorum*
Common Earth Nut or Pig Nut	*Bunium flexuosum*
Fools' Parsley	*Æthusa cynapium*
Sea Samphire	*Crithmum maritimum*
Cow Parsnip	*Heracleum sphondylium*
Common Hemlock	*Conium maculatum*
Seaside Carrot	*Daucus maritimus*

Common Ivy . . .	*Hedera helix*
Wild Cornel or Dogwood (??)	*Cornus sanguinia* (??)
Common Elder . . .	*Sambucus nigra*
Mealy Guelder, Rose or Wayfaring Tree	*Viburnum lantana*
Common Honeysuckle or Woodbine	*Lonicera periclymenum*
Yellow Bedstraw . .	*Galium verum*
Smooth Heath Bedstraw .	,, *saxatile*
Rough Marsh ,, .	,, *uliginosum*
Goose Grass or Cleavers .	*Galium aparine*
Devil's Bit Scabious . .	*Scabiosa succisa* *
Field Knautia . . .	*Knautia arvensis*
Hawkweed Picris . .	*Picris hieracioides*
Rough Hawkbit . . .	*Apargia hispida*
Autumnal Hawkbit . .	,, *autumnalis*
Hairy Thrincia . . .	*Thrincia hirta*
Cat's Ear	*Hypochæris radicata*
Corn Sow-thistle . .	*Sonchus arvensis*
Annual ,, . .	,, *oleraceus*
Smooth Hawk's-beard .	*Crepis virens*
Common Dandelion . .	*Leontodon taraxacum*
Hawkweed (varieties not identified)	*Hieracium* (*varia*)
Common Nipplewort or Swine's Cress	*Lapsana communis*
Succory	*Cichorium intybus*
Burdock	*Arctium lappa*
Welted Thistle . . .	*Carduus acanthoides*
Slender Flowered Thistle .	,, *tenuiflorus*
Marsh Plume Thistle . .	*Cnicus palustris*
Meadow Plume Thistle .	,, *pratensis*
Common Thistle . .	*Onopordum acanthium*
Greater Knapweed . .	*Centaurea scabiosa*

Corn Bluebottle	*Centaurea Cyanus*
Hemp Agrimony	*Eupatorium cannabinum*
Common Filago	*Filago Germanica*
Coltsfoot	*Tussilago farfara*
Blue Fleabane (?)	*Erigeron acris* (?)
Golden Rod	*Solidago virgaurea*
Common Groundsel	*Senecio vulgaris*
Mountain or Balm-scented Groundsel	,, *sylvaticus*
Common Ragwort	,, *Jacobæa*
,, Daisy	*Bellis perennis*
Ox-eye	*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*
Scentless Mayweed	*Matricaria inodora*
Wild Chamomile	,, *chamomilla*
Stinking Chamomile	*Anthemis cotula*
Sneeze-wort Yarrow	*Achillea ptarmica*
Common Yarrow or Milfoil	,, *millefolium*
Ivy-leaved Bell-flower	*Campanula hederacea*
Annual Sheep's Bit, or Scabious	*Jasione montana*
Cross-leaved Heath	*Erica tetralix* *
Fine-leaved ,,	,, *cinerea* *
Ling, or Heather	*Calluna vulgaris* *
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Privet	*Ligustrum vulgare*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*
Common Centaury	*Erythræa centaurium*
Dwarf-branched Centaury	,, *pulchella*
Tufted Centaury	,, *latifolia*
Great Bindweed, or Convolvulus	*Calystegia sepium*
Scorpion Grass, or Forget-me-not	*Myosotis palustris* *

Tufted Water Scorpion Grass	*Myosotis coespitosa*
Field Scorpion Grass . .	,, *arvensis*
Early Field Scorpion Grass .	,, *Collina*
Common Borage . .	*Borago officinalis*
,, Hound's-tongue .	*Cynoglossum officinale*
Thorn Apple . . .	*Datura stramonium*
Henbane (??) . . .	*Hyoscyamus niger* (??)
Black Nightshade . .	*Solanum nigrum*
Deadly Nightshade or Dwale (??)	*Atropa belladonna*
Greater Broom Rape . .	*Orobranche major*
Tall Broom Rape (?) . .	,, *elatior* (?)
Thyme-leaved Speedwell (?)	*Veronica serpyllifolia* (?)
Brooklime . . .	,, *beccabunga*
Common Speedwell . .	,, *officinalis*
Germander ,, .	,, *chamædrys*
Common Eyebright . .	*Euphrasia officinalis*
,, Yellow Rattle .	*Rhinanthus Crista galli*
Pasture Lousewort . .	*Pedicularis sylvatica* *
Knotted Figwort . .	*Scrophularia nodosa*
Balm-leaved Figwort . .	,, *scorodonia*
Foxglove	*Digitalis purpurea* *
Snapdragon . . .	*Antirrhinum majus*
Ivy-leaved Toad-flax or Mother of Thousands . .	*Linaria cymbalaria*
Moth Mullein . . .	*Verbascum blattaria*
Wild Thyme . . .	*Thymus serpyllum* *
Wood Germander or Wood Sage	*Teucrium scorodonia*
White Dead Nettle . .	*Lamium album*
Red Dead Nettle . .	,, *purpureum*
Ground Ivy . . .	*Nepeta glechoma*
Common White Horehound .	*Marrubium vulgare*
Self-heal	*Prunella vulgaris*

Vervain	*Verbena officinalis*
Primrose	*Primula vulgaris*
Yellow Pimpernel or Wood Loosestrife	*Lysimachia nemorum*
Scarlet Pimpernel or Poor Man's Weather Glass	*Anagallis arvensis*
Blue Pimpernel . . .	,, *cærulea*
White or Flesh-coloured Pimpernel	,, *carnea*
Bog Pimpernel . . .	,, *tenella*
Thrift or Sea Pink . .	*Armeria maritima* *
Greater Plantain . .	*Plantago major*
Hoary ,, . .	,, *media*
Ribwort Plantain or Ribbed Grass	,, *lanceolata*
Sea-side Plantain . .	,, *maritima*
Buck's-horn ,, .	,, *coronopus*
White Goose-foot . .	*Chenopodium album*
Mercury Goosefoot or Good King Henry or Sea Spinach	,, *Bonus Henricus*
Common Buckwheat . .	*Polygonum fagopyrum*
,, Knotgrass . .	,, *aviculare*
Broad-leaved Dock and others not identified	*Rumex obtusifolius* (*et alii*)
Common Sorrel . .	,, *acetosa*
Sheep Sorrel . . .	,, *acetosella*
Sun Spurge or Waitweed or Wolf's Milk	*Euphorbia helioscopia*
Portland Spurge . .	,, *Portlandica*
Petty Spurge . . .	,, *peplus*
Great Nettle . . .	*Urtica dioica*
Small ,, . . .	,, *urens*
Alder	*Alnus glutinosa*

Common White Willow .	*Salix alba*
„ Osier . . .	„ *viminalis*
Great Sallow, or Goat Willow	„ *caprea*
Dark-leaved Sallow . .	„ *nigricans*
Small Tree Willow . .	„ *arbuscula*
Poplar White . . .	*Populus alba*
Lombardy Poplar . .	„ *fastigiata*
Common Beech . . .	*Fagus sylvatica*
„ Oak . . .	*Quercus pedunculata*
Early Purple Orchis .	*Orchis mascula*
Daffodil	*Narcissus Pseudo-Narcissus*
Narcissus	„ *poeticus*
Wild Hyacinth or Blue Bell	*Agraphis nutans* *
Soft Rush	*Juncus effusus*
Common Rush . . .	„ *conglomeratus*
Bog Asphodel . .	*Narthecium ossifragum*
Cuckoo Pint . . .	*Arum maculatum*
Bird's Foot Fenugreek .	*Trigonella ornithopodiodes*
Sea Milkwort or Black Saltwort	*Glaux maritima*
Lesser Scull Cap . .	*Scutellaria minor*
Marsh Whorled Mint . .	*Mentha sativa*
Common Rock Cistus or Rock Rose	*Helianthemum vulgare*
Bittersweet . . .	*Solanum dulcamara*
Perfoliate Yellow Wort .	*Chlora perfoliata*
Common Dropwort, or Meadow Sweet	*Spiræa filipendula*
Brown-rayed Knapweed .	*Centaurea jacea*
Narrow-leaved Cotton Grass	*Eriophorum angustifolium*
Halberd-leaved Orache or Sea Purslane	*Atriplex patula*
Water Figwort . . .	*Scrophularia aquatica*
Bog Moss	*Sphagnum cuspidatum*

English Catchfly	*Silene quinquevulnera* or *Anglica*
Duckweed, varieties not identified	*Lemna*
Plantain-leaved Pondweed, other varieties	*Potamogeton plantagineus* (*et alii*) (?)
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron Ponticum*
Common Lilac	*Syringa vulgaris*
Persian Lilac	,, *Persica*
Snow Berry or St. Peter's Wort	*Symphoria racemosa*
Veronica (from New Zealand ?)	*Veronica* (*Nova Zealandica* ?)
Hydrangea	
Wild Mignonette	*Reseda lutea*
Sea Purslane	*Armaria peploides*
Bitter Vetch	*Lothyrus protensis*
Sea Lavender	*Statice auriculafolia*

(Ragged Robin, Highland Cudweed, Marsh Cudweed, and Scrofularia Scorodonia may be added.)

Ferns.

Common Polybody	*Polypodium vulgare*
Male Fern	*Lastrea filix mas*
Rigid ,,	,, *rigida*
Narrow Prickly Toothed Fern (?)	,, *spinulosa* (?)
Broad Prickly Toothed Fern	,, *dilatata*
Hay-scented Fern	,, *recurva*
Prickly Shield Fern	*Polystichum aculeatum*
Brittle Bladder Fern	*Cystopteris fragilis*
Narrow Brittle Fern	,, *angustata*
Lady Fern	*Athyrium filix-fœmina*
Lanceolate Spleenwort	*Asplenium lanceolatum*
Black Spleenwort	,, *adiantum nigrum*

Sea Spleenwort . . .	*Asplenium marinum*
Hart's Tongue . . .	*Scolopendrium vulgare*
Hard Fern . . .	*Blechnum boreale*
Common Brake, Bracken, Eagle Fern	*Pteris aquilina*
Royal Fern, Flowering Fern	*Osmunda regalis*
Adder's Tongue . . .	*Ophioglossum vulgatum*
Maiden Hair (now probably extinct within the last thirty years)	*Adiantum Capillus Veneris*

(The foregoing list of plants is copied from J. R. Chanter's monograph ' Lundy Island,' with a few additions.)

A Razorbill

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